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US hails Turkish cease-fire; Kurds must vacate border area

By ROBERT BURNS and ZEKE **MILLER**

ANKARA, Turkey (AP) -The U.S. and Turkey agreed Thursday to a cease-fire in the Turks' deadly attacks on Kurdish fighters in northern Syria, requiring the Kurds to vacate the area in an arrangement that largely solidifies Turkey's position and aims in the weeklong conflict. The deal includes a conditional halt to American economic sanctions. After negotiations with Turk-

ish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan, U.S. Vice President Mike Pence hailed the five-day cease-fire as the way to end the bloodshed caused by Turkey's invasion. He remained silent on whether it amounted to a second abandonment of America's former Kurdish allies in the fight against the Islamic State group.

Turkish troops and Turkishbacked Syrian fighters launched their offensive against Kurdish forces in northern Syria a week ago, two days after President Donald Trump suddenly announced he was withdrawing the U.S. military from the area. Trump was widely criticized for turn-



Vice President Mike Pence, left, and Secretary of State Mike Pompeo leave the Ambassador's Residence as they walk to a motorcade en route to the Presidential Palace for talks on the Kurds and Syria, Thursday, Oct. 17, 2019, in Ankara, Turkey.

Associated Press

taken heavy casualties as partners with the U.S. in 2016.

ing on the Kurds, who had Turkish Foreign Minister Mevlut Cavusoglu said the United States had acfighting IS extremists since cepted the idea of a "safe zone" long pushed by Tur-

key, and he insisted Turkish armed forces will control the zone. He also made clear that Turkey will not stop at a previously limited

zone; he said Turkish control of the Syrian side of the border must extend all the way to the Iraqi border.

Continued on Next Page





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Continued from Front

The commander of Kurdishled forces in Syria, Mazloum Abdi, told Kurdish TV, "We will do whatever we can for the success of the ceasefire agreement." But one Kurdish official, Razan Hiddo, declared that Kurdish people would refuse to live under Turkish occupation. Trump had no reservations, hailing "a great day for civilization.'

"Everybody agreed to things that three days ago they would have never agreed to," he told reporters. "That includes the Kurds.

The Kurds are now much more inclined to do what has to be done. Turkey is much more inclined to do what has to be done."

Trump seemed to endorse the Turkish aim of ridding the Syrian side of the border of the Kurdish fighters whom Turkey deems to be terrorists but who fought against IS on behalf of the U.S. "They had to have it cleaned out," he said.

Leading U.S. lawmakers were less pleased than Trump. Sen. Mitt Romney, the Republicans' presidential nominee in 2012, said

he welcomed the ceasefire but wanted to know what America's role in the region would be and why Turkey was facing no consequences for its invasion. "Further, the cease-fire does not change the fact that America has abandoned an ally," he said on the Senate floor.

It was not clear whether the deal means the U.S. military will play a role in enabling or enforcing the cease-fire. Pence said the U.S. would "facilitate" the Kurds' pullout, but he did not say if that would include the use of American troops.

The Pentagon had no immediate comment.

As Pence was speaking in Ankara, U.S. troops were continuing to board aircraft leaving northern Syria. Officials said a couple of hundred had already departed, with hundreds more consolidated at a few bases waiting to move out.

Sen. Lindsey Graham, a Trump confidant who has criticized the president's pullout, said he thinks U.S. troops will be needed as part of an effort to implement and enforce a halt to the fighting. "There's just no way around it," he said. "We need to maintain control of the skies" and work with the Kurds.

While the cease-fire seemed likely to temporarily slow legislation in Congress aimed at punishing Turkey and condemning Trump's U.S. troop withdrawal, lawmakers gave no sign of completely dropping the measures.

Shortly before the announcement of the pause in hostilities, Graham and Sen. Chris Van Hollen, D-Md., introduced legislation that would bar U.S. military aid to Turkey, seek to curb foreign arms sales to Ankara and impose sanctions on top Turkish officials unless Turkey withdraws its forces. Those sanctions would include a report on Erdogan's family assets.

In contrast with Pence's description of a limited safe zone, the agreement would effectively create a zone of control patrolled by the Turkish military that Ankara wants to stretch for the entire border from meaning there will be no the Euphrates River to the penalty for the operation.

Iraqi border, though the agreement did not define the extent of the zone. Turkish forces currently control about a quarter of that length, captured in the past nine days.

The rest is held by the Kurdish-led forces or by the Syrian government military, backed by Russia, which the Kurds invited to move in to shield them from the Turks. None of those parties has much reason to let Turkish forces into the areas.

Ankara has long argued the Kurdish fighters are nothing more than an extension of the Kurdistan Workers Party, or PKK, which has waged a guerrilla campaign inside Turkey since the 1980s and which Turkey, as well as the U.S. and European Union, designate as a terrorist organization.

In fact, Turkey's foreign minister rejected the term "cease-fire," saying that would be possible only with a legitimate second party. He suggested a "pause" in fighting instead.

Pence and Secretary of State Mike Pompeo, who took part in the negotiations, lauded the deal. A senior administration official said the American team sensed a breakthrough, after listening to Erdogan repeatedly reject a ceasefire, when the Turkish president finally asked how long it would take to get the Kurdish fighters out of the so-called safe zone. The official, who spoke on condition of anonymity to describe internal deliberations, said the U.S. was in touch with the Kurds throughout the negotiations, including about the speed of the withdrawal and the need for a halt in Kurdish long-range artillery fire into Turkey.

But the agreement essentially gives the Turks what they had sought to achieve with their military operation in the first place. After the Kurdish forces are cleared from the safe zone, ness to its allies. Turkey has committed to a permanent cease-fire but is under no obligation to withdraw its troops. In addition, the deal gives Turkey relief from sanctions the administration had imposed and threatened to increase,

Brett McGurk, the former civilian head of the administration's U.S.-led counter-IS campaign, wrote on Twitter that Thursday's deal was a gift to the Turks.

"The US just ratified Turkey's plan to effectively extend its border 30km into Syria with no ability to meaningfully influence facts on the ground," he wrote, adding that the arrangement was "non-implementable."

Danielle Pletka, vice president for foreign and defense policy studies at the American Enterprise Institute, tweeted, "This is a respite while we surrender to Turkish domination of Northeast Syria."

Erdogan had stated on Wednesday that he would be undeterred by U.S. sanctions. He said the fighting would end only if Kurdish fighters abandoned their weapons and retreated from positions near the Turkish border.

Before the talks, the Kurds indicated they would object to any agreement along the lines of what was announced by Pence. But Pence maintained that the U.S. had obtained "repeated assurances from them that they'll be moving out." Trump's withdrawal of U.S. troops has been widely condemned, including by Republican officials not directly associated with his administration. Republicans and Democrats in the House, bitterly divided over the Trump impeachment inquiry, banded together Wednesday for an overwhelming 354-60 denunciation of the U.S. troop withdrawal.

Trump has denied that his action provided a "green light" for Turkey to move against the longtime U.S. battlefield partners or that he was opening the way for a revival of the Islamic State group, new Russian influence in the region and increased worldwide doubts about U.S. faithful-

The White House released a letter on Wednesday in which Trump warned Erdogan that the sanctions could destroy his economy and that the world "will look upon you forever as the devil if good things don't happen. Don't be a tough guy. Don't be a fool!"□







Share of Americans with no religious affiliation growing

By DAVID CRARY **AP National Writer**

The portion of Americans with no religious affiliation is rising significantly, in tandem with a sharp drop in the percentage that identifies as Christians, according to new data from the Pew Research Center.

Based on telephone surveys conducted in 2018 and 2019, Pew said Thursday that 65% of American adults now describe themselves as Christian, down from 77% in 2009. Meanwhile, the portion that describes their religious identity as atheist, agnostic or "nothing in particular," now stands at 26%, up from 17% in 2009

Both Protestant and Roman Catholic ranks are losing a possible split over differ- quarters of baby boomers population share, according to Pew. It said 43% of U.S. adults identify as Protestants, down from 51% in 2009, while 20% are Catholic, down from 23% in 2009. Pew says all categories of Over the last decade, the

population - often referred to as the "nones" grew in magnitude. Self-described atheists now account for 4% of U.S. adults, up from 2% in 2009; agnostics account for 5%, up from 3% a decade ago; and 17% of Americans now describe their religion as "nothing in particular," up from 12% in 2009

The report comes at a challenging time for many maior denominations in the U.S. The two largest — the Catholic church and the Southern Baptist Convention — are beset by clergy sex-abuse scandals. The United Methodist Church, the largest mainline Protestant denomination, faces ences on the inclusion of LGBTQ people.

The Pew report found a steady decline in the rates of attendance at religious services.

the religiously unaffiliated share of Americans who say they attend religious services at least once or twice a month dropped by 7 percentage points, while the share who say they attend religious services less often — if at all — rose by the same degree.

> In 2009, regular attenders those who attend religious services at least once a month — outnumbered those who attend services only occasionally or not at all by a 52%-to-47% margin. Now, more Americans say they attend religious services a few times a year or less (54 that say they attend at least monthly (45%).

Pew's data showed a wide age gap in terms of religion affiliation — threedescribed themselves as Christian, compared to 49% of millennials.

The trends documented by Pew have been reflected in other recent developments.



In this Tuesday, April 11, 2017 file photo, the sun sets on a Baptist church in Georgia.

Associated Press

In May, the Southern Baptist Convention reported its twelfth year of declining membership. The SBC said it had 14.8 million members in 2018, down about 192,000 from the previous year

In June, the annual Giving USA report — a comprehensive overview of Americans' charitable giving patterns - said giving to religious institutions had been lagging behind other philanthropic sectors for several years.

Reasons included declining attendance at worship services and a rising number of Americans not affiliated with any religion.

Empty Tomb, a Christian organization based in Champaign, Illinois, that researches religious giving, says the decline is longstanding. According to its research, Americans gave about 3% of their disposable income to churches in 1968, and less than 2.2% in 2016. ☐



Cummings, powerful congressman leading Trump probe, has died

By BRIAN WITTE and REGINA **GARCIA CANO**

Associated Press

BALTIMORE (AP) — Maryland Rep. Elijah E. Cummings, a sharecropper's son who rose to become a civil rights champion and the chairman of one of the U.S. House committees leading an impeachment inquiry of President Donald Trump, died Thursday of complications from longstanding health problems. He was 68.

Cummings was a formidable orator who advocated for the poor in his blackmajority district, which encompasses a large portion of Baltimore and more wellto-do suburbs.

As chairman of the House Oversight and Reform Committee, Cummings led investigations of the government president's dealings, including probes in 2019 relating to Trump's family members serving in the White House.

Trump criticized the Democrat's district as a "rodentinfested mess" where "no human being would want to live." The comments came weeks after Trump

In this April 2, 2109 file photo, House Oversight and Reform Committee Chair Elijah Cummings, D-Md., leads a meeting to call for subpoenas after a career official in the White House security office says dozens of people in President Donald Trump's administration were granted security clearances despite "disqualifying issues" in their backgrounds, on Capitol Hill in Washington.

drew bipartisan condemnation following his calls for Democratic congresswomen of color to go back to their "broken and crimeinfested countries."

Cummings replied that government officials must stop making "hateful, incendiary comments" that distract the nation from its real problems, including mass shootings and white supremacy.

"Those in the highest levels of the government must stop invoking fear, using racist language and encouraging reprehensible behavior," Cummings said. On Thursday, Trump ordered flags at the White

House, military bases and other federal buildings to be flown at half-staff through Friday to honor Cummings. He also tweeted his "condolences to the family and many friends of Congressman Elijah Cummings. I got to see firsthand the strength, passion and wisdom of this highly respected political leader." The tweet made no reference to past feuds.

Former President Barack Obama, whose 2008 presidential bid counted Cummings as an early supporter, said he and his wife, Michelle, were "heartbroken" by the loss of their friend.

"As Chairman of the House Oversight Committee, he showed us all not only the importance of checks and balances within our democracy, but also the necessity of good people stewarding it," Obama said in a statement, describing Cummings as "steely yet compassionate, principled yet open to new perspectives." In a joint statement, former President Bill Clinton and his wife, former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton, leadership of the committee "in finding facts, exposing fictions, and demanding that our government be accountable."

rights leader John Lewis hear testimony.

said that with Cummings' death, Americans "have lost a great leader at a time of crisis in our democracy." "When this nation needed him most, he became a moral voice 'crying in the wilderness,' and his words and actions called a reluctant nation to conscience," the Georgia Democrat said in a statement.

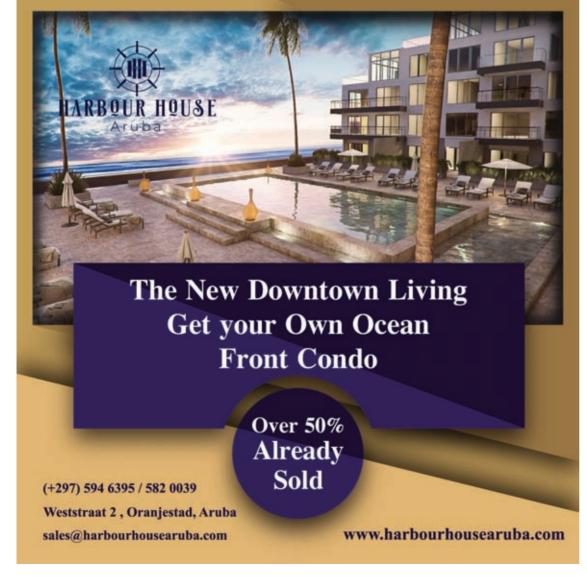
Cummings' career spanned decades in Maryland politics. He rose through the ranks of the Maryland House of Delegates before winning his congressional seat in a 1996 special election to replace Kweisi Mfume, who left to lead the NAACP.

By 2016, Cummings was the senior Democrat on the House Benghazi Committee, which he said was "nothing more than a taxpayer-funded effort to bring harm to Hillary Clinton's campaign."

Throughout his career, Cummings used his fiery voice to highlight the struggles and needs of inner-city residents. He believed in much-debated approaches to help the poor and addicted, such as needle exchange programs to reduce the spread of AIDS.

A key figure in the Trump impeachment inquiry Cummings had hoped to return to Congress within about a week after a medical procedure for which he didn't offer details. He'd previously been treated for heart and knee issues.

Cummings' committee, authorized to investigate virtually any part of the federal government, is one of three conducting the House impeachment probe of Trump. Cummings was among the three chairmen to sign a letter seeking documents into whether Trump pressured Ukraine to investigate the family of Democratic presidential rival Joe Biden, the former vice president. The committees also praised Cummings' have issued subpoenas of witnesses after the Trump administration's refusal to cooperate with the impeachment probe and have jointly been meet-Congressman and civil ing behind closed doors to





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Plan to close notorious Rikers jail complex by 2026 approved

York City lawmakers voted Thursday to close the notorious Rikers Island jail complex, which has become synonymous with violence and neglect, and replace it with four smaller jails intended to be more modern and humane.

The City Council voted 36-13 to replace the complex with four smaller jails located closer to the city's main courthouses in Manhattan, Brooklyn, the Bronx and Queens.

Rikers is scheduled to shutter by 2026, ending a decadeslong run as one of the world's largest jails.

"Rikers island is a symbol of brutality and inhumanity and it is time for us to once and for all close Rikers Island," said City Council Speaker Corey Johnson, a Democrat who shepherded the plan through the Council. "As a city we must do everything we can to move away from the failed policies of mass incarceration."

Mayor Bill de Blasio and other Democrats support the plan, which has a price tag of more than \$8 billion, in part because of a belief that in an age of falling crime rates, huge jails are part of the public safety problem rather than part of the solution."This is one of those moments where a cycle gets broken. There's been a cycle of incarceration," de Blasio said at a news conference after the vote. He added, "It ends now. That cycle ends now." Members of the Council spoke in emotional terms handcuffs, has slashed arabout the significance of closing Rikers. Councilman Daniel Dromm invoked the names of former inmates who have died including Kalief Browder , who took his own life at age 22 after being held in for three

NEW YORK (AP) — New years at Rikers, and Layleen Polanco , a transgender woman who was found dead in her cell at Rikers last June.

> But some opponents of the plan said they don't want the city to build any new jails. "There is nothing in the plan that guarantees closing Rikers," said Councilman Carlos Menchaca, who voted no. "I do not trust this mayor. Do you?"

> The vote on the plan was disrupted by anti-jail activists who chanted "If you build it they will fill it" and threw flyers from the balcony.

> City officials say a steep drop in the jail population has made it feasible to close Rikers, a complex of 10 jails on an island between Queens and the Bronx that mainly houses inmates awaiting trial.

With falling crime rates, the number of people incarcerated in the city on a daily basis has declined from a high of nearly 22,000 in 1991 to about 7,000 today. City officials announced this week that they believe they can shrink the jail population even further by 2026, to just 3,300 prisoners. Backers of the jail overhaul say they expect the city's jail population will keep dropping because of criminal justice reforms.

Several district attorneys in the city have said they are no longer prosecuting small-time marijuana possession cases. The police department, after ages of measuring officers by how rests for misdemeanors as officers have been encouraged to write tickets for minor offenses, rather than drag people to jail.

A new state law is set to eliminate cash bail for most misdemeanor and nonvio-



This June 20, 2014 file photo shows the Rikers Island jail complex in New York with the Manhattan skyline in the background.

Associated Press

lent arrests. Once the law goes into effect in January, far fewer poor people will be held in jail while await-

Critics of the plan, however, say fewer cells may mean more violent criminals on city streets.

Seth Barron, project director of the NYC Initiative at the Manhattan Institute, a conservative think tank, questions whether the city can really drive incarceration rates as low as they want without compromising public safety.

"It's not clear how they're going to get these numbers and it's politically driven," Barron said. "It's a big risk because we've already taken all the nonviolent people out of Rikers."

Barron blames the effort many people they put in to empty the city's jails for the beating deaths of four homeless men in Manhattan's Chinatown this month. Randy Santos, the man charged with attacking the men as they slept, had been recently freed from jail after several arrests for previous, less serious attacks on other people.

"What is clear is that progressive social policies gave Santos the freedom to feed his addictions and nurture his insanity — until he murdered four innocent people," Barron wrote in the institute's City Journal. The plan calls for moving inmates to four new or expanded jails in each city borough except Staten Is-

land, making it easier for the inmates to receive visits from lawyers and family members who will no longer have to travel to an island. The plan met some resistance from residents of neighborhoods surrounding the jail sites. City Council leaders announced Tuesday they would decrease the heights of the planned jails to win support.



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School's out: Chicago teachers strike, 1st day deal unlikely

By KATHLEEN FOODY and **DON BABWIN**

Associated Press

CHICAGO (AP) — Striking teachers marched in picket lines outside hundreds of Chicago schools on Thursday after their union and city officials failed to reach a contract deal in the nation's third-largest school district, canceling classes for more than 300,000 students for the duration of a walkout that seemed likely to head into a second day. The strike in the nation's third-largest school district came after the Chicago Teachers Union confirmed Wednesday night that its 25,000 members would not return to their classrooms. It follows months of negotiations between the union and Chicago Public Schools that failed to resolve disputes over pay and benefits, class size and teacher preparation time.

Union vice president Stacy Davis Gates said the strike will continue into Friday as a result of the impasse, and the school district cancelled a second day of classes.

Picketing teachers said Thursday the walkout was about getting more resources and smaller class sizes for students in the cash-strapped district, not about putting more money in their pockets.

Outside Smyth Elementary, a predominantly black and low-income school on the city's near South Side, art teacher John Houlihan said "we're not fighting for paychecks and health care. It's the kids."

"It's ridiculous to say that you can put these kids who are dealing with profound poverty and profound homelessness in classes of 30-40 kids," said Houlihan, who picketed with about 20 other teachers and staff as drivers passed by, honking their horns. "That's not manageable and it is not an environment for learning."

The strike is Chicago's first major walkout by teachers since 2012. And just as that strike inspired unions in Los Angeles and other politically left-leaning cities to walk



Chicago Teachers Union Vice President Stacy Davis Gates, center, other union officials and their supporters lead thousands of striking union members on a march through the Loop, Thursday, Oct. 17, 2019, in Chicago.

Associated Press

off the job and protest over issues such as class size and student services, unions nationwide are today watching closely to see how parents respond to a walkout based on a "social justice"

Chicago Teachers Union President Jesse Sharkey joined teachers picketing outside Helen Peirce International Studies school, where he said every kindergarten class has at least 30 students. He said there's "pent-up frustration" among union members about conditions in the schools, and the union wants some of those longstanding issues addressed in their next contract.

Mayor Lori Lightfoot said she was disappointed by the union's decision to strike.

"We are offering a historic package on the core issues salary, staffing and class size," she said.

Lightfoot voiced frustration front of schools citywide to about what she sees as the union's lack of urgency to make a deal. "So, what we need is for the union to come back to the table to bargain in good faith. spend the time actually getting a deal done, face to face with us, and not off

to the side in a caucus," she said. "If there is a seriousness of purpose and a willingness on the other side we could get a deal done today."

Sharkey spoke briefly after early talks wrapped up and said it's "highly unlikely" a deal on all outstanding issues would be struck Thursday. Sharkey said the district did provide some written language on class sizes that the union was still reviewing.

"We don't just want a fast deal," Sharkey said before leading teachers on a march through the city's downtown streets. "We are going to hold fast to a just deal."

Bargainers were expected to return Thursday afternoon.

Also striking are 7,000 support staffers, whose union also failed to reach a contract agreement.

But from the picket lines in Washington, D.C., home of the American Federation of Teachers, the message was the same: The school district and the mayor are not doing nearly enough to improve the lives of students.

"Educators in Chicago

want the same thing educators who have walked off the job all across this country want," said AFT President Randi Weingarten in a statement. "The resources to give their students what they need."

At Thomas Chalmers Elementary School on the city's west side, about 25 teachers cheered and waved in response to cars and trucks honking in support, taking short breaks to replenish mugs full of hot coffee.

Maggie Sermont, a 32-yearspecial education teacher, said Chalmers' teachers are concerned that a nurse, social worker and speech pathologist typically visit the school just once a week. Kids may see those specialty staff in group sessions that further limit their one-on-one time, she said.

"It just feels like we're putting a Band-Aid over a bullet hole," she said.

During the 2012 strike, the district kept some schools open for half days during a seven-day walkout. This time, all buildings are stayina open durina school hours, staffed by principals and employees who usually work in administrative

Breakfast and lunch will be served, but all after-school activities and school buses are suspended.

Janice Jackson, the district's CEO, encouraged parents to send their children to the school that they normally attend, however they will be welcome in any district schools.

"We've put together a really comprehensive plan for the students," Jackson said. "We will make sure they are safe and they have a productive day."

Samantha Williams, 24, said it's "not good" that her first-grade son is missing instruction time. Williams said she understands teachers need more help but also expressed frustration and questioned the motives behind the walkout. "I think it's more about money. I don't think they had to go on strike."

But Jamel Boyd, a 51-year old-chef, shouted her support to teachers as she dropped off her 10-yearold-son and 8-year-old daughter at Smyth Elementary and accepts the teachers' explanation that the strike has less to do with getting the city to spend money on their salaries than it does spending money on improving schools.

"I am so with you all," she

She said the city needs to spend more money on schools so CPS can provide nurses and social workers, rather than investing in other projects, such as the city's lakefront.

"Kids are coming with all kinds of problems, anxiety, homelessness and these teachers need help, classroom support," said Boyd, who told of the day her son was rushed to a hospital by ambulance because there was no nurse at the school that day who she believes would have quickly recognized that the asthma attack staffers thought her son was having was actually a panic attack. "They need to stop beautifying Lake Shore Drive and do something for these people. Lake Shore Drive is beautiful enough."

Northeast officials team up to push pot, vaping regulations

NEW YORK (AP) — The gov- he said. ernors from several Northeastern states said Thursday they want to work together to regulate marijuana and vaping, including possible regional restrictions on flavored vaping products.

Democratic cut, New Jersey and Penn-City with health and legislative officials. Representatives from Massachusetts and Colorado were also on hand for the meeting.

"What we want to do is coordinate this on a regional that increased the age basis," said Connecticut to 21 for someone to pur-Gov. Ned Lamont, noting how the "patchwork quilt of marijuana regulations makes no sense at all." He said the group came up with "very preliminary" principles concerning how to regulate legalized, recreational marijuana, such as agreeing to have similar policies for THC content, edibles, advertising and taxation in order to dissuade people from turning to the illicit market.

Lamont said "different states are going to have different timeframes" to pass marijuana legislation and he didn't foresee everyone enacting the exact same law at the same time. He said more work needs to be done and staff from the participating states will continue working together on the issue. Several of the governors unsuccessfully pushed for their states to allow recreational pot sales in the last year.

"We just want to make sure we go in with our eyes open and we're consistent," Lamont said.

On vaping, Lamont said there appeared to be "the most unity" among the officials on possibly outlawing flavored e-cigarettes next year, given their appeal to young people and the growing number of vapingrelated lung illnesses and deaths across the country. "I think you'll see some unanimity on that at the start,"

Earlier this month, a state appeals court temporarily blocked New York from enforcing Gov. Andrew Cuomo's 90-day emergency ban on such products after the vaping industry sued governors to block the regulations. from New York, Connecti- In Massachusetts, Republican Gov. Charlie Baker sylvania met in New York last month announced a statewide ban on the sale of vaping products, a measure that has been challenged in court.

> Meanwhile, a new law just took effect in Connecticut chase vaping products.



Pennsylvania Gov. Tom Wolf, second from left, New York Gov. Andrew Cuomo, center, Connecticut Gov. Ned Lamont, second from right, and New Jersey Gov. Phil Murphy, far right, co-host a regional summit on public health issues around cannabis and vaping, Thursday Oct. 17, 2019, in

Associated Press

vaping regulations means often vaped and states na legalization.

Cuomo said a lack of fed- it's up to states to act. He should also consider that eral action on pot and noted that marijuana is when considering marijua-





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UK, EU reach Brexit deal, with Parliament as next hurdle

By RAF CASERT **JILL LAWLESS LORI HINNANT Associated Press**

BRUSSELS (AP) — British Prime Minister Boris Johnson's career of disdain for the European Union was a thing of the past on Thursday as he and the bloc's leaders celebrated their tentative Brexit deal. He now faces an opponent closer to home: his own Parliament.

With the ink barely dry on the proposal and Johnson still happily backslapping EU leaders at a summit in Brussels, a chorus of British party leaders said they would vote against the deal. Crucially, the Northern Irish party that supports Johnson's minority government said it would not support the deal, leaving the prime minister uncertain of getting the votes he needs to ratify it.

After an intense week of technical talks and with only two weeks to go until Britain's scheduled departure on Oct. 31, European Commission Presibroke the tension with a



British Prime Minister Boris Johnson, center, is greeted by Luxembourg's Prime Minister Xavier Bettel, center left, during a round table meeting at an EU summit in Brussels, Thursday, Oct. 17, 2019. **Associated Press**

tweet Thursday morning: "We have one! It's a fair and balanced agreement for the EU and the UK and it is testament to our commitment."

Johnson tweeted that the two sides had struck a "great new deal" and dent Jean-Claude Juncker urged U.K. lawmakers to back it in a special session being held Saturday - the first time since the 1982 Falklands War that the House of Commons has sat on a weekend.

European leaders unanimously endorsed the tentative deal on Thursday, formally sending it to the British Parliament.

But Johnson will face a struggle to get his deal approved. All the major opposition parties condemned the agreement, and Johnson's key Northern Irish ally also said its lawmakers would oppose it.

Labour Party leader Jeremy Corbyn, Scottish First Minister Nicola Sturgeon and Brexit party leader Nigel Farage all announced they could not back the

"It seems the prime minister has negotiated an even worse deal than Theresa May's, which was overwhelmingly rejected," Corbyn said, referring to Johnson's predecessor who failed to get her agreement through Parliament. Many opposition lawmakers want to oppose the

deal and then seek to delay Brexit while new terms are negotiated.

But Juncker ruled out any new postponement, leaving British lawmakers with a simple choice: deal, no deal or revoke Brexit.

"If we have a deal, we

have a deal, and there is no need for a prolongation," he said.

The ultimate decision on any extension though does not rest with Juncker. It's a decision for the other 27 EU countries.

Johnson's 10 Downing Street office put it even more succinctly with the mantra: "New deal, no deal but no delay."

EU Brexit negotiator Michel Barnier said Johnson "told President Juncker this morning that he believed he was able to get the deal approved" in Parliament, adding that Johnson said he was "confident about his capacity to convince a majority."

Johnson began his career as a Brussels-based journalist spinning exaggerated tales of EU excess for British readers, and as a politician helped lead the campaign to take Britain out of the EU, but that acrimony was nowhere in sight on Thursday. Instead, relief was palpable in Brussels as leaders happily mingled in the summit room of Brussels' Europa building, which has all too often been ground zero for European crises. Johnson cheerily saluted French President Emmanuel Macron, who responded with the heartiest of handshakes.

The jubilation soon turned

bittersweet, with EU leaders bemoaning the impending loss of a major member state - a military, economic and diplomatic juggernaut that had joined 46 years ago.

At the same time, they were clearly delighted to end the ugly recriminations and insults of months of Brexit bickering.

"I'm satisfied that we were able to find a deal, but I'm sad about the fact that Britain is leaving the European Union," Juncker said.

The pound hit a five-month high against the U.S. dollar on news of a Brexit deal, then sank back as traders heard Johnson's Northern Irish allies were still unhappy with the way the deal handles the border between EU member state Ireland and Northern Ireland, which is part of the U.K. — long one of the thorniest issues of any exit.

The new deal is broadly similar to the 585-page withdrawal agreement that May hammered out, with the only major changes on the Irish border issue. The agreement must also still be formally approved by the bloc and ratified by the European Parliament. That could happen as early as next week when it meets in Strasbourg.

While British leaders kept their legislators at arms' length during the talks, EU negotiator Barnier has kept the EU parliament fully involved and the final approval is expected to be little more that a rubber stamp.

The deal agreed Thursday will be legally binding if approved — but it doesn't cover the all nitty gritty of future relations between the U.K. and the EU. It merely lays out the terms for withdrawal, while leaving the details of trade and other issues to future negotiations. The only issues that leaders felt they couldn't put off and had to hammer out ahead of a U.K. exit were the thorniest ones: how to address the Irish land border and the rights of British and EU citizens living in each other's territories.





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Police arrest 2nd suspect in case of isolated Dutch family

Associated Press

AMSTERDAM (AP) — Dutch police said Thursday that a group of people discovered on an isolated farm this week may have been kept there against their will for up to nine years, as they arrested a 67-year-old man who says he is the father of the group.

"We have reasons to suspect that the six persons involved did not stay in the house ... of their own free will," police said in a statement. "We are investigating whether a certain religion or philosophy forms the cause of their living situation."

Police raided the farm in a rural village 130 kilometers (80 miles) northeast of Amsterdam on Monday after one man left the building and raised the alarm. They



The small group of buildings after a family group were discovered to be living in secluded conditions in Ruinerwold, 130 kilometers (80 miles) northeast of Amsterdam, Netherlands, Tuesday Oct. 15, 2019.

Associated Press

who said they belong to rooms in the farm, which road behind a row of trees.

found six people, all adults one family, in makeshift was barely visible from the

The man who raised the alarm after walking into a local bar and ordering five beers for himself also says he belongs to the family.

Drone images of the farm showed a large vegetable garden on one side of a group of buildings and chopped wood stacked up along a fence.

A 58-year-old man who rented the farm was arrested shortly after Monday's raid on suspicion of involvement in "deprivation of liberty and harming the health of others" and money laundering. He reportedly is an Austrian national and not related to the other people involved in the case.

On Thursday, police also detained the supposed father in connection with the same suspicions.

London commuters scuffle with climate activists

By MIKE CORDER **Associated Press**

commuters scuffled with climate activists who climbed onto the roofs of trains early Thursday, snarling services in the busy morning rush hours in the British capital. Londoners have largely tolerated a series of peaceful protests in recent days by the Extinction Rebellion workers' morning commute appeared to be a step too

LONDON (AP) — Angry

Television images showed at least one man reaching up and grabbing the leg of a protester on top of a Tube train, dragging him

far for some.

he lay on the ground.

they were called to three with their loved ones.' stations in east London early Thursday after protesters climbed onto the roofs of trains or glued themselves to the carriages.

Robin Boardman, a spokesman for the protesters, said that if such action is neces- "This illegal action is exgroup, but interfering with sary to make the government take notice of their climate change demands, "then this is what we must do."

> "None of us want to inconvenience ordinary people," he said. "That's why we're doing this in the morning

onto the platform where he when it will impact busiwas quickly surrounded as ness as usual, and not in the evening, when people British Transport Police say want to get home to be

Police arrested a total of eight people and urged protesters not to target London's underground rail

London Mayor Sadiq Khan condemned the protesters. tremely dangerous, counterproductive and is causing unacceptable disruption to Londoners who use public transport to get to work," he said.

More than 1,400 people have been arrested since the group began blocking



In this image taken from video, a protester stands of top train, in London, Thursday Oct. 17, 2019.

Associated Press

roads, bridges and airports in London over a week ago to demand faster action

on climate change. Most have been released without being charged.



UN: Afghan insurgents responsible for most 2019 casualties

KABUL, Afghanistan (AP) —

Afghan civilians are dying in record numbers in the country's increasingly brutal war, noting that more civilians died in July than in any previous one-month period since the U.N. began keeping statistics, according to a U.N. report released Thursday.

The report also said that for the first time this year insurgents were responsible for more casualties than U.S. and pro-government forces.

Tadamichi Yamamoto, the U.N. secretary-general's special representative for Afghanistan, said neither side is doing enough to protect civilians.

The report said 2,563 civilians were killed and 5,676 were wounded in the first nine months of this year. Insurgents were responsible for 62 percent. July to September were the deadliest months so far this year.

"Civilian casualties at record-high levels clearly show the need for all parties concerned to pay much more attention to protecting the civilian population, including through a



Newly graduated Afghan National Army march during their graduation ceremony after a three month training program at the Afghan Military Academy in Kabul, Afghanistan, Sunday, Oct. 13, 2019

Associated Press

review of conduct during combat operations," said Yamamoto.

"Civilian casualties are totally unacceptable, especially in the context of the widespread recognition that there can be no military solution to the conflict in Afghanistan" he added. The U.N. report said that pro-government forces caused 2,348 civilian casualties, including 1,149 killed and 1,199 wounded, a 26% increase from the same period in 2018.

Besides detailing civilian casualties and their causes, U.N.'s latest report indicates that 41% of all civilian casualties in Afghanistan were women and children. In the first nine months this year, a total of 261 women and 631 children were killed.

"The impact of Afghanistan's conflict on civilians is appalling; every verified number is a person, someone's relative - mother, father, daughter, son," said Fiona Frazer, the U.N.

Assistance Mission in Afghanistan's Human Rights Chief. "The United Nations will continue its advocacy work with all parties to the conflict until Afghanistan reaches the only acceptable number of civilians killed and injured in the conflict: zero."

Efforts have been stepped up to restart talks to end Afghanistan's 18-year war.

Earlier this month, U.S. envoy Zalmay Khalilzad visited Pakistan, where he met with the Taliban's top negotiator, Mullah Abdul Ghani Baradar, a co-founder of the hardline Taliban movement and head of a Taliban delegation to the Pakistani capital. The Taliban said they were in Islamabad to discuss the condition of roughly 1.5 million Afghan refugees living in the city. U.S. officials said Khalilzad was in the Pakistani capital to follow up on talks he held in September in New York with Pakistani officials, including Prime Minister Imran Khan.

They insisted Khalilzad was not in Pakistan to restart U.S.-Taliban peace talks _ at least not yet. ☐



Iraqi blogger outspoken about country's corruption detained

BAGHDAD (AP) — Masked security agents stormed the apartment of a prominent Iraqi blogger in Baghdad early Thursday and detained him, apparently over his coverage of antigovernment protests, a member of his family said. For about a week starting Oct. 1, Iraq witnessed protests by young Iraqis demanding jobs, electricity and clean water — and an end to corruption. Security forces retaliated with live fire, killing more than 100 people and wounding thousands in protests that spread mostly in Baghdad and pre-dominantly Shiite regions in the country's south.

The family member, who spoke on condition of anonymity for fear of reprisals,

said Shujaa al-Khafaji had received threats from un-known people in recent days warning him not to publish posts about the protests.

Al-Khafaji, 29, runs a popular Facebook page called "Brothers Iraq" that focuses on human rights violations. On Tuesday the page, which has 2.1 million likes, posted a video that showed what it said were people setting a checkpoint on fire after the protesters had left. It blamed government supporters for the fire.

Prominent Shiite cleric Muqtada al-Sadr tweeted after the arrest that he is opposed to silencing people, adding that those behind it should be held accountable.

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Opposition protests suspend Hong Kong assembly session

HONG KONG (AP) — Hong Kong leader Carrie Lam was again forced from the legislative chamber because of protests Thursday by opposition members following a bloody attack on a leader of the nearly 5-month-old protest move-

Pro-democracy lawmakers shouted and waved placards depicting Lam with bloodied hands, prompting their removal by guards and the suspension of proceedings.

A day earlier, Lam was forced to abandon an annual policy address in the chamber, later delivering it by television.

Disruption in the chamber and the attack Wednesday night on Jimmy Sham by assailants wielding hammers and knives marked the latest dramatic turn in the unrest that has rocked the city since June.

Protesters and police have both deployed levels of



A pro-democracy lawmaker, center, is taken away as he shouts a slogan while Hong Kong Chief Executive Carrie Lam arrives at chamber of the Legislative Council in Hong Kong, on Thursday, Oct. 17, 2019.

Associated Press

violence unseen since the former British colony reverted to Chinese rule in 1997. Prior to her departure, Lam reiterated that her "first

priority" was ending the violence that has dealt a body blow to the local economy as well as Hong Kong's reputation as a safe,

law-abiding center for finance and business with a sophisticated independent judiciary.

Lam said she was working

with the city's 180,000 public servants and transport authorities to restore order, although that task was made harder by members of the public sympathetic to the cause of the "rioters," as she termed the hardcore protesters.

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However, she was forced to withdraw amid calls for her resignation, with prodemocratic legislator Claudia Mo shouting, "Carrie Lam, you are a liar."

The protests began in response to a now-withdrawn extradition bill that would have allowed criminal suspects to be sent for trial in Communist Party-controlled courts in mainland China. The movement then ballooned to encompass broader clamors for universal suffrage, an independent inquiry of the policing methods used against protesters and other demands, including ending the description of protesters as "rioters."

Landslide, building damage from Philippine quake kills 5

DAVAO, **Philippines (AP)** — and falling objects.

The death toll from a strong earthquake in the southern Philippines climbed to five people, with dozens more injured, officials said Thursday

The Office of Civil Defense said two people died and 18 were injured in a landslide set off by Wednesday night's quake in Davao del Sur province's Magsaysay town, where a child also was killed after a wall collapsed on her.

Officials reported two more deaths elsewhere, including a girl hit by a collapsed wall in southern Maguindanao province. More than 50 people were injured in total, mostly after being hit by concrete walls

The Philippine Institute of Volcanology and Seismology said the 6.3 magnitude was centered 22 kilometers (14 miles) southeast of Tulunan in North Cotabato province at a relatively shallow depth of 8 kilometers (5 miles). More than 200 aftershocks have been recorded

The U.S. Geological Survey placed the magnitude at 6.4 quake with a depth of 14 kilometers (9 miles). Shallow quakes tend to cause more damage than deep-

Some areas lost power, including the transport hub of Kidapawan city. A fire broke out in the Gaisano shopping mall in General

Santos city shortly after the quake, but there were no reports of people trapped. Vice Mayor Joselito Pinol of North Cotabato's M'lang town said patients were evacuated out of a hospital to ensure their safety during the quake. Several buildings were damaged, including Pinol's office, where the glass-windowed facade fell.

Schools in quake-hit areas, including the president's hometown of Davao city, suspended classes on Thursday so buildings can be inspected for damage. President Rodrigo Duterte was in the capital, Manila, when the quake struck.

Leslie Francisco, a local disaster response officer, said



Debris are scattered on the floor of a damaged store a day after a strong quake struck in Digos, Davao del Sur province, southern Philippines Thursday, Oct. 17, 2019.

Associated Press

a small college in Digos city in Davao del Sur province had extensive damage. The Philippines is one of the

world's most disaster-prone countries, with frequent typhoons, earthquakes and volcanic activity.



Venezuela wins seat on UN rights body despite opposition

By EDITH M. LEDERER UNITED NATIONS (AP) —

Venezuela won a contested election for a seat on the U.N. Human Rights Council on Thursday despite a campaign by over 50 organizations and many countries opposed to Nicolas Maduro's government and its rights record.

There was scattered applause in the General Assembly chamber when its president announced the results of the voting for two Latin American seats. Brazil topped the ballot with 153 votes followed by Venezuela with 105 votes and late entry Costa Rica with 96 votes.

The 193-member world body elected 14 members to the 47-member Human Rights Council for threeyear terms starting Jan. 1. Under its rules, seats are allocated to regions to ensure geographical representation.

In other contested races, Iraq lost out in the Asian group contest for four seats



In this Sept. 30, 2019, file photo, Venezuela's President Nicolas Maduro speaks during a press conference at the Foreign Ministry in Caracas, Venezuela.

Associated Press

to Japan, South Korea, Indonesia and the Marshall Islands, and Moldova lost in the Eastern Europe group race for two seats to Armenia and Poland.

Africa had four countries on the ballot —Benin, Lib-

ya, Mauritania and Sudan — for four seats. But when General Assembly President Tijjani Muhammad-Bande announced the results the winners were Namibia, Libya, Mauritania and Sudan, with Benin get-

ting just one vote.

There was no competition for the two Western group seats and Germany and the Netherlands were overwhelmingly elected.

The Geneva-based Human Rights Council can spotlight abuses and has special monitors watching certain countries and issues. It also periodically reviews human rights in every U.N. member

Created in 2006 to replace a commission discredited because of some members' sorry rights records, the new council soon came to face similar criticism.

The United States left the council partly because it saw the group as a forum for hypocrisy about human rights, though also because Washington says the council is anti-Israel.

Venezuela's Attorney General Tarek William Saab called the vote "an important achievement" for his country

Israel's U.N. Ambassador Danny Danon said in a statement immediately after Thursday's results were announced that: "The Human Rights Council continues to abandon human rights and is now in the business of protecting dictators and war crimes."

AMLO lauds departure of oil union chief, who defends record

By PETER ORSI **Associated Press**

MEXICO CITY (AP) — Mexico's president on Thursday celebrated the resignation of the head of the country's oil workers union, who ruled the organization for nearly three decades with an iron fist before quitting following repeated scandals over alleged corruption.

Carlos Romero Deschamps issued a public letter defending his 26-year-leadership of the Union of Oil Workers of the Mexican Republic, but did not specifically address the matter of two complaints under investigation by the Attorney General's Office related to alleged operations with illicit resources.

President Andrés Manuel López Obrador said Romero Deschamps' departure marks "the beginning of a new stage" and called for free and democratic union governance with "transparency in the management of funds from worker dues." "In truth I celebrate what



In this Sept. 29, 2000 file photo, leader of Mexico's oil right, Labor Secretary Carlos Maria Abascal, center, and Pemex director Raul Munoz Leos, arrive to a media conference in Mexico City.

Associated Press

happened yesterday," López Obrador said, adding that corruption must not be allowed. He has made rooting out corruption a tional Revolutionary Party,

core policy of his adminis-

Romero Deschamps is also a senator for the Institu-

which monopolized Mexican politics for 71 years until its loss in the historic 2000 election. He was not elected directly but rather

named to the Senate under a system allotting some seats to parties according to their percentage of the

Suspicions of influencepeddling have long surrounded Romero champs, with he and family members displaying a lavish lifestyle of luxurious goods, vehicles, trips and properties. A 2013 Forbes article named him one of Mexico's 10 most corrupt.

"It cannot be that union leaders live pampered lives, heaped with privileges, with very wealthy residences," López Obrador said. "That is immoral. How can a leader of workers be a magnate at the same time? Where does that money come from?"

In 2002, under then-President Vicente Fox of the National Action Party, investigators looked into charges of money laundering and embezzlement of over \$11 million by Pemex officials. Romero Deschamps was among those targeted.

LOCAL







Live from Aruba Airport's Facebook Page, followers watched the

1st Aviation Cake Baking Competition









ORANJESTAD – Aruba Airport Authority N.V. (AAA) in collaboration with EPI Hospitality & Tourism Unit held the 1st Aviation Cake Baking Competition which took place on Sunday, October 13th, 2019. A total of 10 teams consisting of 2 EPI students each, competed and were part of an Aviation Cake Bake-Off to become the winner of a brand new baker kit.

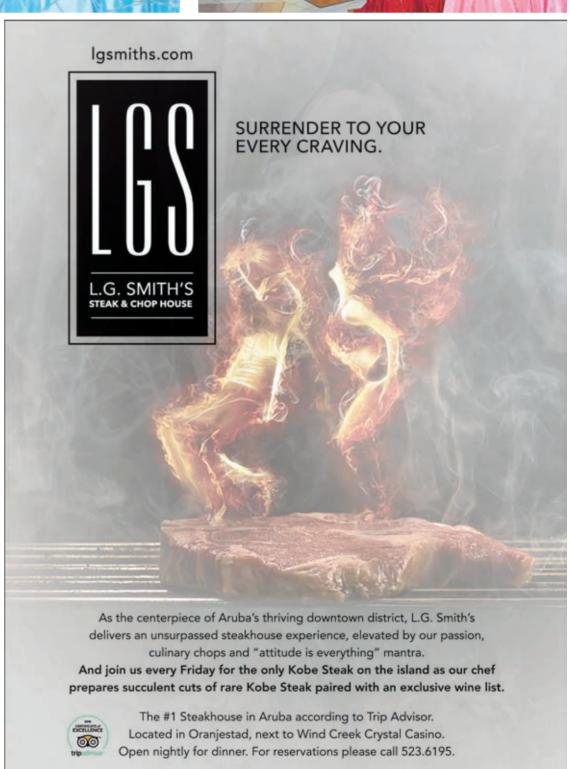
The first part of the competition took place on Saturday, October 12th, 2019 where each team had a maximum of 2 hours to bake their cakes in preparation for the main competition the next day. All Aruba Airport Facebook followers were able to tune in live at 10:00 AM to watch the competition until 8:00PM when the winners were announced.

On Sunday, the 10 teams were officially introduced and were asked to stand at their assigned stations in EPI H&T's kitchen where the competition started at exactly 10:00 AM. The teams received 5 hours to cut their cakes and prepare and create all their cake decorations. At exactly 3:00 PM, the time was up and all cakes were transported to Aruba Airport's US Check-in Building where the main judging event took place.

During the live streaming of the event on Aruba Airport's Facebook page, each team had 2 minutes to present their cake to the judges who consisted of professionals in the baking industry as well as known persons in the tourism and aviation industry. The judges were able to taste the cakes and score the teams based on their creative ability, overall appearance, texture, taste and flavor.

At the end of the competition, the top 3 teams were called forward to announce the winning team. The Bronze Whisk Winner (3rd place) were Jahrmael White & Requelle de Weever, Team Champions. The Silver Whisk Winner (2nd place) were Aneudy Liriano & Garrick Tromp, Team Dushi Gateway and the Gold Whisk Winner (1st place) were Mariel Willems & Michelle Fitz Verploegh, Team Pixies.

AAA would like to congratulate all 20 students who participated at the 1st Aviation Cake Baking Competition and would like to thank the dynamic team of EPI Hospitality & Tourism Unit and all volunteers who helped during the preparations and two days of the competition to make this event a successful one.





Aruba Art Fair 2019 dedicated to Elvis Tromp and his 50 years of activity in Art

SAN NICOLAS — Auto-didactic painter and graphic designer Elvis Tromp, Aruban born, predominately applies the use of oil-painting technique, combining the marvelous and brilliant colors of Aruba's enchanted landscape. In 2019 Elvis celebrates his 50th anniversary in offering the general public his spectacular paintings.

Aruba's landscape, as captured by the vision of Elvis, exhales peace, simplicity, greatness and accompanied by colors that express the human warmth of Aruba's inhabitants.

In a very unique mode Elvis depicts the 'cunucu', the fisherman, the abandoned houses, birds, flora and fauna in impressive colors. Aruba Art Fair always focuses on the artist and allows the artist to dedicate his artistic expression completely to the creation of the branding of Aruba Art Fair.

Studying the thoughts of the artist he put into the chosen art piece for Aruba Art Fair



2019, we may observe the presence of San Nicolas in full extend. Aruba's famous Carnival was born in San Nicolas and therefore here the most spectacular costumes originated. The Church of San Teresita, built in 1929, may be considered as one of the most precious churches in Aruba, celebrating its 90th anniversary this year. The iconic Watertower, now the home of the Industrial Museum, constructed in 1935 in the Art Deco architecture, and can be seen all around San Nicolas and surroundings, is an integral part of the illustration. The oil refinery which initiated the modern era of industrial development, is a unavoidable subject, and as a spinoff of this development the steelpan was born, with the Family Connor as the pioneers, establishing the first Steelband in 1952. Honoring those who scarified their lives for our nation during wartime, the artist has included the gigantic red anchor, placed at the entrance of the Colony. And to put the cherry on the cake Elvis has included our national hero Xander Bogaerts, an authentic San Nicolas born and raised personality.

Elvis Tromp has been the illustrator of numerous books and literary essays and has been the designer of over 50 editions of Aruba postage stamps. In this way cementing his creations in our collective memory.

Aruba Art Fair 2019 is scheduled to take place in the streets of San Nicolas on November 22, 23 and 24 2019. Starting at 7.00 pm each evening, where you may experience art, music, dance and more than 150 artists presenting their art in a singular way. 2019 will be the beginning of the celebration of the first lustrum of the Aruba Art Fair and will culminate in the project known as the Hooiberg 2020 project, in which the 600 steps of the Hooiberg will be turned into the largest mosaic artwork in the Caribbean.

Partnering with the Aruba Art Fair are Aruba Tourist Authority Sui Generis, Kooyman Aruba, Department of Cultural Affairs of Aruba, AIB (Aruba Investment

For more detailed information visit our website www. arubaartfair.com or call us at the Artisa office at 5842424.



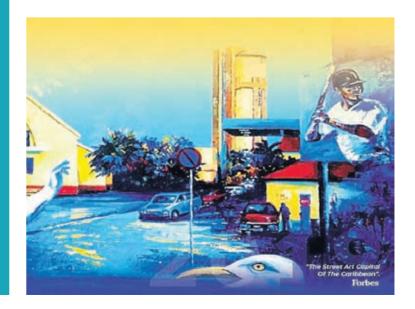
Travel Tips



- When checking-in, you will always need your valid passport, along with your ticket, e-ticket receipt or e-ticket confirmation. For some countries a Visa is also required. For all US-bound departures, check-in three hours before your scheduled departure
- For all US-bound flights, after check-in, leave building through the exit on the left side of building; follow the signs and head towards local immigrations, main security screening, shopping area and the departure gates. Aruba Airport provides
- For all Non US departures, check-in may vary between airlines and destinations; always consult your airline for more information. Being at the airport 3 hours before
- For all Non US flights, after check-in, leave building through the exit on the right side of building; follow the signs and head towards Local immigrations, main
- security screening, shopping area and the departure gates.

 If traveling with a carry-on, there are restrictions on liquids, gels and aerosols you can carry in your carry-on luggage. Always check with your airline on limitations.
- Always check the weight limit of your baggage; excess weight may result in penalty
- Always label your bags and suitcases with your name, address and phone number. Always leave all carry-on items unlocked while passing through screening points to not cause delays if these need to be inspected.
- 10. Avoid wearing big belt buckles, clothing with metal buttons, lots of jewelry etc. when traveling. If you have these on, remove all metal items and place these in a tray for screening. It is advisable to put all metal items in your carry-on luggage until you clear security. This will help speed up the process.
- Remove shoes at checkpoint and place in tray for x-ray machine screening.

 All electronic items should be placed in tray outside their case for x-ray screening.
- 13. Avoid packing foods and beverages in your check-in baggage. When traveling to the US, you have to comply with the rules and regulations of the U.S. Department o Agriculture. More information https://www.usda.gov/.
- 14. If traveling with medication, please pack these in your carry-on luggage in their
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Reneé Trotman honored as a Distinguished Visitor!

EAGLE BEACH — Recently, Kimberley Richardson of the Aruba Tourism Authority had the great pleasure to honor one of Aruba's loyal and friendly visitors as a Distinguished Visitor of Aruba. The symbolic Distinguished Visitor certificate is presented on behalf of the Minister of Tourism, as a token of appreciation to guests who visit Aruba 10 years and more consecutively.

The honoree was **Reneé Trotman** from New York, USA!

Reneé stated that Aruba is and will always be her second home. She fell in love the first time she came to the island in 1985. She also stated that she loves Aruba very much, especially for its year-round sunny weather, nice sandy beaches and picturesque sunsets, delicious variety of foods, its rich culture, and Aruba's warm and friendly people.

Ms. Richardson together with the representatives of the Aruba Beach Club Resort presented the certificate to Reneé, handed over some presents and also thanked her for choosing Aruba as her favorite vacation destination and as her home-away-fromhome.



NEW IN THE MARKET!! Your Own Beach Villa with a Backyard of Green Tranquility Azure Beach Residences The Villas



EAGLE BEACH — Sometimes everything comes together. You're looking for this special family place while vacationing or you are a local resident who wishes a secure and comfortable house within a serviced residence to enjoy your retirement. You'd also like to make an investment that brings you a profit and at the same time you want to deal with a trustworthy and secure company. Azure Beach Residences has all of the above under one roof. New offering by the successful Pering Group: The Villas.

Developer Pering Group's quality is already visible with Azure Beach Residences (sold for 90 % already) at Eagle Beach and Harbour House Condominiums (sales going beyond expectations) in Oranjestad. Now their newest product is The Villas with the same formula: a quality product for a good price, a trustworthy developer and a prime location. Take a look at this hot opportunity: only six fantastic villas on the border of a bird sanctuary and opposite the white-sand Eagle Beach.

The Villas are designed in modern architecture with panoramic windows where the green environment from the bird sanctuary (Bubali Plas) can flow freely inside. That is the feel you get with the Azure Villas. Just behind the condominium towers we have found this quiet space where you can have your family's second home or enjoy your well-deserved retirement. Big benefit: you will not only have a villa with four bedrooms and three bathrooms, but also an option for an annex that has one bedroom and one bathroom which can be rented out to cover your villa's expenses. Your own private pool is optional too.

A private house within the frame of a residence

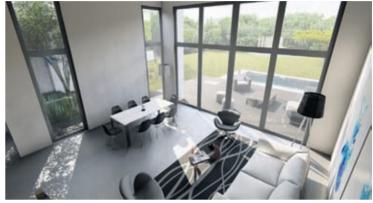
Picture this: in the morning the kids are playing in their rooms while you take your coffee outside to the patio to enjoy the birds singing in the lush greens that surround you. After breakfast you gather your stuff to walk to the residence pools or cross the street to jump into the Caribbean Sea. This is no movie, this is for real. You are in paradise, you own your own villa and you have a decent return-on-investment. Not to be forgotten: you can make use of all facilities and services that are offered by Azure Beach Residences and there is 24-hours security. Best of it all is that the prices are very reasonable, especially when compared to similar offerings in the market.

Upgraded Environment

The environment of Azure Beach Residences and the Azure Villas will be improved as the government is extending the Linear Park, a lovely paved route that eventually connects the length of the island's west coast from the Airport to Arashi Beach. The trail is lined with trees for shade and offers secure space for walkers, runners and cyclers. All together you will be assured to have your perfect picture here.

Are you curious? Azure Beach Residences welcomes you to step in and hear more about this great opportunity! Hear us out and see for yourself.







WINNING POINTS

- Closed gated community with all amenities Azure Beach Residences has to offer
- Spacious villa with lots of light coming in and full privacy PLUS the annex can be rented out
- Your backyard is the Bubali Bird Sanctuary and the white-sand Eagle Beach on the opposite side of the street
- New walk-run-cycle trail and park right by the front of the property
- Well-priced in comparison with equally sized offerings
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For more information you can visit the website:

http:// www.azure-aruba.com.
The sales office is open every week day from 9 AM -5 PM,
Saturdays 10 AM - 1 PM.









SPORTS





Wizards sign Beal to 2-year, \$72 million extension

By TIM REYNOLDS

Bradley Beal signed a twoyear extension worth nearly \$72 million with Washington on Thursday, a major victory for the Wizards and a move that will keep the All-Star guard out of free agency for at least the next three summers.

Beal still had two years left on his existing contract. The extension kicks in for the 2021-22 season, has a player option for the following year and means that Beal won't be part of what has been shaping up to be an NBA free-agent extravaganza in the summer of 2021.

"It's a blessing, man — for one, that they even consider me a franchise player, a piece of this organization in itself," Beal said at a news conference in Washington. "And I was prideful of that. You don't get that type of love and respect and responsibility from anywhere."

The Wizards were willing to give Beal a threeyear extension that would have been worth about \$111 million. Beal went the two-year route and that protects his future options — he could opt out of the deal in the summer of 2022, coinciding with his 10th year in the league. The 10-year milestone is significant: By having that many years of service, Beal would be eligible to sign a new deal worth in excess of \$250 million over the next five seasons. "You ask yourself a lot of questions during free agency: Why do people leave? Why do they go other places?"

Continued on Page 22



Pittsburgh Penguins' Brandon Tanev (13) celebrates his overtime goal against Colorado Avalanche goaltender Philipp Grubauer (31) during an NHL hockey game in Pittsburgh, Wednesday, Oct. 16, 2019. The Penguins won 3-2.

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Jason Day shoots 66, trails by 2 strokes at CJ Cup

JEJU ISLAND, South Korea (AP) — Jason Day's attempt to impress International team captain Ernie Els for a spot at the Presidents Cup took a positive turn on Thursday when the Australian shot a 6-under 66 to sit two strokes off the lead after the opening round of the CJ Cup at Nine Bridges. In the first event of a threetournament PGA swing through Asia, Byeong Hun An took the lead with a 64 with Joaquin Niemann a stroke behind in second. Day was alone in third place.

Day is hoping Els will chose him as a captain's pick for the International team against the Tiger Woodscaptained U.S. team in December at Royal Mel-

"Overall, it's a great start," Day said. "I'm excited for the rest of the week."

He said before his first round that he was still hoping for a Presidents Cup spot.

"It is certainly disappointing not to make the team on my own merits. But it is a reminder that nothing is given to you in this game," Day said.

"I certainly want to be on the team and believe I can be an asset to the Interna-



Jason Day of Australia watches his shot on the first hole during the first round of the CJ Cup PGA golf tournament at Nine Bridges on Jeju Island, South Korea, Thursday, Oct. 17, 2019.

tionals. Being in my home country certainly gives me an edge and I've had some success on the sandbelt (courses) and Royal Melbourne in the past."

Defending champion Brooks Koepka shot a 69 with an eagle on the 18th, his final hole, Last year's runner-up Gary Woodland had a 71.

Justin Thomas, who won the inaugural 2017 CJ Cup, shot 68 and Phil Mickelson and Jordan Spieth each shot 70. Spieth is looking to end a lengthy drought — he hasn't won since the 2017 British Open at Royal Birkdale, a span of 54 tournaments worldwide.

"Overall a good way to start. I felt I played a lot better than my score," Thomas said. "Anytime you play where you've won before, it creates a lot of good memories."

Kevin Na, who won in a playoff in Las Vegas two weeks ago, had a 72 and Sergio Garcia shot 73.

There are 78 players in the no-cut, limited-field event. The top-ranked Koepka stirred some controversy on Wednesday when he pointed out that Rory Mc-Ilroy, his closest challenger for the No. 1 ranking, hasn't won a major since the American joined the PGA Tour in 2015.

Nasa Hataoka. Amy Yang share LPGA Tour lead in Shanghai

SHANGHAI (AP) — Nasa Hataoka birdied three of the final six holes for a 5-under 67 and a share of the first-round lead with Amy Yang on Thursday in the Buick LPGA Shanghai, the first of four straight events in Asia.

Hataoka won the Kia Classic in California in March and has finished in the top seven in her last events on the LPGA and JLPGA circuits, winning JLPGA majors at the Japan LPGA Championship Konica Minolta Cup and Japan Women's Open.

Making her first appearance in the event, the 20-year-old Japanese player birdied three of the four par-5 holes at Qizhong Garden.

"The par 5s are very short this week, so I feel like I make a birdie on par 5 I can kind of keep going," Hataoka said through a translator.

Yang, from South Korea, matched Hataoka with six birdies and a bogey.

"I'm happy how I played," said Yang, the Honda LPGA Thailand winner in February for her fourth career LPGA victory. "My swing felt very stable out there and hit

some lot of solid shots out there and making some good putts, so it's been a good round."

Americans Jessica Korda and Angel Yin shot 68. Korda is making her first start since Solheim Cup.

"A little rusty with a couple shots," said Korda, 3-0-1 last month in Scotland in the United States' loss to Europe. "I'm going to go to the driving range and try to figure that out a little bit," said Korda of her performance. "But, yeah, I was really proud of myself today. Speed of the greens was changing a lot. Definitely got a lot faster at the end, but I was able to keep it together." Defending champion Danielle Kang was at 69 with Brooke Henderson, Lydia Ko, Jennifer Kupcho, Mel Reid, Jodi Ewart Shadoff and Bronte Law. Chinese star Shanshan Feng opened with a 70. American Brittany Altomare had a hole-in-one on

in a 70. She used a 6-iron. "I just came off a couple holes that didn't really go my way and I felt good

the 175-yard second hole

about the club that I had," Altomare said.

Arkansas track plans to end greyhound racing by end of 2022

LITTLE ROCK, Ark. (AP) —

An east Arkansas track agreed Thursday to phase out greyhound racing over the next three years, citing a decline in dog racing nationally and fears that the state's voters would approve ending the practice. The Arkansas Racing Commission unanimously approved a plan by Southland Casino Racing to end greyhound racing at the West Memphis track an agreement with the Arkansas Greyhound Kennel Association, which has 16 members who own and operate kennels of greyhounds that race at the

"We want to avoid a disruptive and abrupt end to live racing to the benefit of all parties, including everyone who has a job at stake," Robert Thorne, president of the Arkansas Greyhound Kennel Association. said in a statement.

Southland, the state's only greyhound track, has conducted greyhound races in West Memphis since voters approved last year. Southland in January announced it was building a \$250 million casino complex and high-rise hotel at land will begin next year, reached a "mutually bene-

its facility.

Southland's request noted that Florida voters last year approved an end to greyhound racing in in that state by 2021 and that greyhound racing currently exists in only six states.

"There are threats of a similar campaign to end greyhound racing in Arkansas through an initiated amendment to the Arkansas Constitution," 1956. Under the plan, the track's proposal sala. voters, there is a significant possibility that it would be approved."

The phase-out at South-

with the track going from 6,656 races this year to 4,992 next year and reducing each year after that. David Wolf, Southland's president and general manager, said the phaseout will provide enough time for about 1,200 greyhounds that race at the track to be adopted.

"We know it's going to take time to adopt out the greyhounds, and our commitment is to make sure every by Dec. 31, 2022. South- Southland would still offer "If the question of ending greyhound that has raced setts-based group said the land said it had reached casino gambling under a live greyhound racing in at Southland finds its forconstitutional amendment Arkansas is put before the ever home," Wolf said in a racing will now turn to West statement.

> Gov. Asa Hutchinson said he was pleased Southland and the association

ficial" agreement and applauded the commission for approving the terms of the deal.

Animal rights groups hailed Arkansas' decision, calling it another sign of greyhound racing's decline across the country.

"It's now clear that greyhound racing will end completely in the United States,' GREY2K USA, a greyhound protection group, said in a statement. The Massachudebate over greyhound Virginia, where lawmakers next year are expected to take up legislation that could end the practice in that state.



Tale of 2 Cities: Sapporo likes race move; Tokyo not much

By STEPHEN WADE

TOKYO (AP) — Sapporo officials are thrilled with a proposal to move next year's Tokyo Olympic marathons to the northern Japanese city to avoid the summer heat in the city.

That was not the case in Tokyo, where the reaction to the move seemed to catch city and organizing committee officials by surprise.

"We take this as an honor," Sapporo Mayor Katsuhiro Akimoto said.

Sapporo, which hosted the 1972 Winter Olympics, has expressed interest in bidding for the 2030 Winter Games, and this could be a first step.

"I think this could pave the way for us," the mayor said. Tokyo Governor Yuriko Koike was not overjoyed on Thursday.

"We are very surprised to learn of this sudden change of direction," she said, noting the effort that municipal governments had made to organize the race.

Koike, however, sided with the International Olympic Committee's reasoning that of athlete safety and avoiding Tokyo's blistering summer heat.

"Of course, the athletes-first approach is extremely important," she said.

The IOC released the proposal on Wednesday to move the marathons and race walking to Sapporo. The change was announced quickly, apparently with scant consulting with local organizers or government officials.

The trigger was probably the recent world track championships in Doha, Qatar, where 28 of 68 starters failed to finish the women's marathon and 18 of 73 men failed to complete the course. The races were run at midnight in 38 degree C (100 degree F) heat.

Ethiopian distance-running great Haile Gebrselassie said athletes "could have died" in the women's race. The marathons in Tokyo were to start at 6 a.m. to ease the heat effect on runners. The men's 50-kilometer race walk final was slated for a 5:30 a.m. start. The IOC said a final deci-

sion would be made after games inspectors visit Tokyo for a meeting on Oct. 30-Nov. 1.

Local organizing committee president Toshiro Mori, however, said there is no choice but to accept the proposal, which he said sounded more like a decision when he received a call from IOC president Thomas Bach last week.

"Can we say no to the plan that the IOC and International Association of Athletics Federation already supported?" Mori said. "It's not a question of good or bad, but we just have to accept it."

Forecast temperatures in Sapporo are "five to six degrees centigrade (about 10 degrees F) cooler during the day than in Tokyo," the



Yoshiro Mori, president of the 2020 Tokyo Olympics organizing committee, speaks to the media in Tokyo, Thursday, Oct. 17, 2019.

Associated Press

IOC said.

Koike said she wants the IOC to explain "to all of the games stakeholders,

including the citizens of Tokyo."

Mori said the size of an additional cost resulting from

the change, as well as security and other logistical questions, need to be resolved.





Tanev scores OT winner, Pens deal Avs first loss

By The Associated Press

PITTSBURGH (AP) — Brandon Tanev scored a shorthanded goal in overtime, and the Pittsburgh Penguins handed the Colorado Avalanche their first loss of the season with a 3-2 victory Wednesday night.

Tanev, Pittsburgh's biggest free-agent pickup in the offseason, scored his first goal with his new team 3:57 into the extra session. He became the second player in franchise history with a short-handed overtime goal, joining Mario Lemieux on Jan. 22, 1996.

Tanev swooped into the zone and threw a shot on goal that went between Philipp Grubauer's pads. Colorado forward Gabriel Landeskog knocked the puck into the net, giving Pittsburgh its fourth straight win for the first time since an eight-game winning streak last season.

Sidney Crosby and Jake Guentzel also scored for Pittsburgh, and Matt Murray made 26 saves.

The Avalanche, the NHL's last unbeaten team, looked to start the season with six straight wins for the first time since 2013-14.

Nathan MacKinnon and Matt Calvert scored for Colorado, and Grubauer stopped 30 shots.

OILERS 6, FLYERS 3

EDMONTON, Alberta (AP) Connor McDavid had a goal and four assists for Edmonton, and Leon Draisaitl added two goals and one

It was McDavid's third career five-point game. Mikko



Pittsburgh Penguins' Brandon Tanev (13) gets the game-winning goal past Colorado Avalanche goaltender Philipp Grubauer (31) during overtime in an NHL hockey game in Pittsburgh, Wednesday, Oct. 16, 2019. The Penguins won 3-2.

Associated Press

Koskinen made 49 saves for Edmonton (6-1-0) in his third win of the season.

Nugent-Hopkins, Ryan Ethan Bear and former Flyer Brandon Manning each scored their first goal of 2019-20.

Jakub Voracek scored twice for Philadelphia (2-2-1) and assisted on Oskar Lindblom's goal.

It was a tough night for Flyers goalie Carter Hart, who allowed four goals on 14 shots. He was pulled in the second period after Nugent-Hopkins' power-play goal and replaced by Brian Elliott.

SHARKS 5, HURRICANES 2

SAN JOSE, Calif. (AP) — Evander Kane became the first San Jose player to score three goals in the opening period of a game, and the Sharks earned for their third straight victory.

Kane opened the scoring at even strength and added two power-play goals in the first for his second career hat trick. The Sharks are hitting their stride after beginning the season with four straight losses.

Tomas Hertl had a goal and two assists and Barclay Goodrow also scored for San Jose. Martin Jones made 36 saves.

Dougle Hamilton and Erik Haula scored for the Hurricanes, who had won seven of their first eight games this season for the best start in franchise history. James Reimer stopped 17 shots.

DUCKS 5, SABRES 2

ANAHEIM, Calif. (AP) — Adam Henrique scored twice and Jakob Silfverberg had a goal and two assists, leading the Ducks to the victory.

Rickard Rakell had a goal and an assist for Anaheim, and Ryan Getzlaf scored the Ducks' first power-play goal of the season. John Gibson made 31 saves.

Victor Olofsson scored his team-leading sixth powerplay goal for the Sabres, who absorbed their first regulation loss after a 5-0-1 start. Jack Eichel also scored for Buffalo, and Linus Ullmark stopped 26

Buffalo entered with the league's best power play with nine goals in 21 opportunities, but was 1 for 7 with the man advantage.

CAPITALS 4, MAPLE LEAFS 3 WASHINGTON (AP) — John Carlson had a goal and

two assists, giving the defenseman 14 points, and the Capitals earned their first home win of the sea-

Nicklas Backstrom added a goal and an assist, and Jakub Vrana and Evgeny Kuznetsov also scored for Washington, which lost its first three home games for the first time since October 1983.

Rookie goaltender Ilya Samsonov made 29 saves in his first home start to earn his third career win.

Kasperi Kapanen scored a short-handed goal for Toronto and collected two assists. John Tavares and Ilya Mikheyev also scored. Michael Hutchinson stopped 28 shots in his second start for the Maple Leafs.

BLUE JACKETS 3, STARS 2

COLUMBUS, Ohio (AP) — Sonny Milano scored a flashy goal in the third period to help Columbus get the win.

Alexander Wennberg and Zach Werenski also scored for the Blue Jackets. Joonas Korpisalo stopped 30 shots. Columbus (3-3-0) back-to-back games and pulled to .500 with its eighth consecutive victory over the Stars (1-6-1).

Ben Bishop made 32 saves for Dallas, which dropped its fourth straight game. Miro Heiskanen Joe Pavelski had the goals for the Stars.

Milano made it 3-1 when he skated between two defenders and shot from between his legs to go top shelf past Bishop at 9:07.

3-time Olympic cyclist Phinney announces his retirement

By DAVE SKRETTA **AP Sports Writer**

In many ways, Taylor Phinney was born to ride a bike. His father is Davis Phinney, ney, who won gold at the and twice medaled at the surface of his potential.

world championships.

So it was no surprise when the brazen young rider with the big engine won a world championship on the track an Olympic bronze med- in the individual pursuit, or alist who won two stages when he made the obviin the Tour de France and ous move to road cycling. made major inroads for And when Phinney twice Americans in the European finished fourth — one spot peloton. And his mother off the medal stand — duris Connie Carpenter-Phin- ing the 2012 London Olympics, many wondered if he people would like to see as talented as you want, 1984 Los Angeles Games was still just scratching the

Phinney, who announced his impending retirement Wednesday, never quite lived up to the outlandish expectations some set for him. But he still had a wildly successful career, one that included 10 world champi- you're doing." onship medals in a variety "If there's anything that I The 29-year-old Phinney will win at the prestigious Giro sport of cycling it's that," he d'Italia. "I'm grateful that continued, "it is you can be me do amazing things on but if you don't wake up eva bicycle," Phinney said, ery morning and you don't art.

"but the reality is, being touted as something, having talent or being told that you have talent — talent is nothing without work ethic, and work ethic comes from genuine passion for what

want that thing, it doesn't matter. There's a lot of power in recognizing that you don't have the genuine passion for the thing that you're doing anymore. And then having the courage to make that choice."

of disciplines and a stage can take away from the ride one more time for his trade team, EF Education First, this weekend in Japan. Then he will step away to pursue his other passion:



'Fragile' Steelers still optimistic 2019 is salvageable

By WILL GRAVES **AP Sports Writer**

PITTSBURGH (AP) — Mike Tomlin's expression and the circumstances surrounding it summed up the plight of his injury-ravaged team perfectly.

"Seriously, guys?" the Pittsburgh Steelers coach said when asked if Mason Rudolph would be the quarterback after being cleared of the NFL's concussion protocol.

It's a question that seemed preposterous six weeks ago. Of course, back then Ben Roethlisberger's right elbow was healthy, Rudolph was simply relieved to beat out Josh Dobbs for the right to serve as Roethlisberger's understudy and Devlin "Duck" Hodges was looking for work after being cut at the end of training camp.

How quickly things have changed. Roethlisberger has been relegated to the highest-paid mentor in the league after undergoing season-ending surgery in late September. Rudolph's last appearance on the field ended with him being knocked unconscious against Baltimore while Hodges — an undrafted rookie free agent — became the first champion duck caller from Alabama to win his first NFL start.

For a team that spent most of the offseason looking to avoid drama — much of it manufactured — after Antonio Brown and Le'Veon Bell left in the offseason, it somehow has found them anyway. And yet the Steel-

ers (2-4) have tried to stay upbeat even with a revolving door under center and an offense that lacks the dynamic playmaking that once came so easily during the height of the "Killer

"We're not in style point mode," Tomlin said. "We're not even in personality mode. We just need to do what is required to move the chains, to ring up the scoreboard, to score one more point than our opponent in an effort to win football games."

Allow wide receiver JuJu Smith-Schuster to offer proof. Tasked with taking over as the top target following Brown's departure, Smith-Schuster's numbers have dipped drastically. A year removed from a 111-catch season, Smith-Schuster is on pace to barely reach half that total. Yet last Sunday night in Los Angeles, with running backs James Conner and Benny Snell Jr. churning out yards and chewing up the clock against the Chargers, Smith-Schuster was in offensive coordinator Randy Fichtner's ear telling Fichtner to keep the ball on the ground.

Imagine Brown doing that. "You hear that from a wide receiver, it makes you proud," Fichtner said.

And it's an example of the "next man up" philosophy Tomlin has preached during his 12-plus years on the job. For his current group, it's a mantra the team has been forced to cling to for survival. Even though



Pittsburgh Steelers head coach Mike Tomlin watches from the sidelines during the first half of an NFL football game against the Los Angeles Chargers, Sunday, Oct. 13, 2019, in Carson, Calif. **Associated Press**

they're off to their worst start since 2013, the Steelers remain optimistic they can still be a factor in the AFC North. Yes, the first six weeks haven't gone according to plan — nowhere close, actually — but they are intent on focusing on the silver linings. The defense is near the top of the NFL in sacks and turnovers. Save for a 30-point beatdown at New England in Week 1, they've been competitive regardless of who is under center. Only three of their final 10 games are against teams currently with a record over .500. While their margin for error is virtually nonexistent particularly with defensive end Stephon Tuitt now out for the year after tearing a pectoral muscle

against the Chargers there is room for hope.

"We're not in the type of state where we can make any bold predictions about personality and things of that nature," Tomlin said. "We're going to do whatever is required for us to secure victory week in and week out."

Rudolph will be the starting quarterback when Pittsburgh hosts woeful Miami coming off the bye week, the start of a three-game homestand that includes visits from the underperforming Los Angeles Rams and the unpredictable Indianapolis Colts. Two wins in three tries would keep the Steelers in the mix heading down the stretch. Considering what they've been

through so far, it's all they're really asking for and something that looks doable if the defense can continue to be disruptive.

Rookie inside linebacker Devin Bush has been a revelation and every bit worthy of the investment the team made when it traded up to grab him with the 10th pick in the draft. Bush already has two interceptions and four fumble recoveries, including a scoop-and-score in the first quarter against the Chargers that helped take some of the early pressure off Hodges.

"I think it has all come together for all of us as a unit," Bush said. "A lot of new faces out there. I think week in and week out, we keep taking our steps.

Indians C Pérez has ankle surgery, expected ready for camp

By TOM WITHERS **AP Sports Writer**

CLEVELAND (AP) — Indians made him their full-time out a league-high 41 persurgery to remove bone spurs in his right ankle.

The team said Pérez underwent the arthroscopic procedure Thursday in Green Bay, Wisconsin. The 30-year-old Pérez is expected to be fully recovered by spring training in February.

Yan Gomes to the Washington Nationals in November. Pérez batted .239 with 24 homers and 63 RBIs in 119 games.

He entered the season with just 21 homers.

He also played at a Gold Glove level behind the ball.

Pérez had a career-best plate, not allowing a season for the Indians, who passed ball. Perez threw catcher Roberto Pérez had starter after trading All-Star cent of would-be base stealers while handling one of baseball's best pitching staffs.

> Only Bill Dicky (1931), Al Todd (1937) and Johnny Bench (1975) caught more games than Pérez without committing a passed



In this Sept. 3, 2019, file photo, Cleveland Indians' Roberto Perez hits a three-run home run in the seventh inning in a baseball game against the Chicago White Sox, in Cleveland.

Associated Press



Barrett falls vs Duke teammate Reddish, and Zion is next

By BRIAN MAHONEY **AP Basketball Writer**

NEW YORK (AP) — RJ Barrett kept misfiring, a rough start to his college reunion week at Madison Square Garden.

Barrett did plenty of things well but not shooting, going 4 for 14 on Wednesday night in the New York Knicks' 100-96 loss to the Atlanta Hawks.

Old teammate Cam Reddish left with a victory, but Barrett gets another chance for bragging rights among Duke rookies Friday, when Zion Williamson comes to town.

Williamson, Barrett Reddish were freshmen at Duke last season who went on to become top-10 NBA draft picks. Barrett, the No. 3 pick, and Reddish, taken 10th, were quarding each other at the start of the game.

"Obviously, competing against him was a ton of fun," Reddish said. "I mean, obviously in college we were together nonstop and we're here now, so competing against him was definitely a good experience."

While Williamson has been tearing up the NBA in preseason play to the tune of 23.3 points per game on 71.4% shooting for unbeaten New Orleans, Barrett and Reddish have experienced some of the usual rookie struggles.

Reddish entered shooting



New York Knicks forward RJ Barrett (9) looks to pass with Atlanta Hawks forward Cam Reddish (22) and center Alex Len (25) defending during the first half of a preseason NBA basketball game in New York, Wednesday, Oct. 16, 2019.

Associated Press

28.6% at 6 for 21. He was 4 for 7 when the Hawks lost to the Pelicans in their opener, but then went 1 for 7 in each of the next two games, missing all eight 3-point attempts.

He bounced back with a 4-for-9 performance and nine points, which was good enough the way Trae Young (23 points, nine assists) and Vince Carter (17 points, five 3-pointers) played.

Barrett averaged 16 points in his first two games and finished with 12 in this one. He did add seven rebounds and a team-high six assists, but his outside shot just wouldn't fall and his errant pass in the third quarter was scooped up by Reddish and taken for a three-point play that gave Atlanta a 75-69 lead.

"He's always engaged. He's always trying to win," Knicks coach David Fizdale said about Barrett. "These are good learning lessons for him right now to go through that and he still made some plays."

SPURS 128, ROCKETS 114 LaMarcus Aldridge scored 22 points on 11-of-13 shooting to help visiting San Antonio get its first preseason win, and spoil James Harden's near triple-double.

Dejounte Murray added 20 points, going 8 of 11, for San Antonio (1-3), which shot 57% from the field. The Spurs, who led 65-51 at the half behind Murray's 15 points and Aldridge's 14, had six players score in double figures.

Harden powered Houston (3-2) with 40 points, 10 rebounds and seven assists. Russell Westbrook and Eric Gordon each added 14 points. Harden made 13 of 27 from the field and Westbrook was 5 of 13.

HAWKS 100, KNICKS 96

Young beat the thirdquarter buzzer with a long 3-pointer in transition to give Atlanta an 80-71 lead. Carter sank an open 3-pointer from the wing for a 97-95 lead with 1:30 remaining, and Young made two free throws at the 16-second mark to make it 99-96. New York was off on a 3-pointer and De'Andre Hunter sealed it with a free throw.

Hunter, a rookie from Virginia's national championship team, had 15 points for Atlanta (1-3). Carter scored 14 of Atlanta's 16 points with four 3-pointers late in the second quarter.

Julius Randle paced New York (1-2) with 20 points and eight rebounds.

PISTONS 116, HORNETS 110

Andre Drummond and Markieff Morris each scored 17 points and visiting Detroit held off Charlotte. Drummond also had 15 rebounds, and Langston Galloway scored a team-high 18 points, with five 3-pointers, off the bench.

Tim Frazier added 15 points and 12 assists for Detroit (3-2), which was without Blake Griffin. Drummond had 12 points and nine rebounds in the first half as the Pistons led 61-58. Malik Monk led Charlotte (2-3) with 18 points and seven assists. Cody Zeller was one of four Hornets with 12 points.

Continued from Page 17

general manager Tommy Sheppard said. "We've always retained our free agents. The ones we wanted to keep, we did. And this is a humongous opportunity right here with Bradley Beal. It speaks to the rest of the league that he believes in this place, and that's huge."

Sheppard told a story as the team was getting both of those seasons. ready to begin training hard as Beal.

"It sounds easy," Sheppard said. "Then you come in and you see all the work that Bradley puts in ev-recovers from an Achilles

ery day, all the leadership he exudes every day. He's shown time and time again how committed he is to D.C.'

Beal has played more minutes than any other NBA player in the last two reqular seasons, is one of only five players to not miss a game in that span — and is the lone player to have started all 82 games in

He's an elite scorer, 12th in camp about what he says the league last season at to young players he meets a career-best 25.6 points for the first time: Work as per game. And he will be the centerpiece again for a Wizards team that's without point guard John Wall for the entire season as he



Washington Wizards guard Bradley Beal (3) drives around New York Knicks forward RJ Barrett during the first half of a preseason NBA basketball game in New York, Friday, Oct. 11, 2019.

injury. "This is where I've been for the last seven years, going

on eight," Beal said. "I have an opportunity to be able to turn this thing around. A

lot of people doubt that. I view it as a challenge." Sheppard said Beal is poised for yet another big year, and that the way he was interacting with teammates in recent weeks didn't give him any reason

to believe he wasn't com-

mitted to the team.

"The fact that he showed up in summer league and worked with our young players and watched what we were doing — he was so committed throughout the summer," Sheppard said. "He came in in September, Associated Press had everybody out here working out. All those actions showed somebody that really wanted to be here."



Women impacting NBA in various roles, 11 assistant coaches

By KYLE HIGHTOWER AP Sports Writer

Practice is over and Boston Celtics assistant coach Kara Lawson is still working. She stands under the basket rebounding, giving feedback to rookie guard Carsen Edwards as he shoots from different spots on the court. After swishing his final three attempts, he jogs over to her.

"Thanks coach," Edwards says before exchanging a high-five with Lawson.

Welcome to the new-look NBA, in which women are impacting every aspect of the game — from broadcasting booths, officiating, coaching on the sidelines, front-office executives to ownership.

Lawson is one of a record 11 women serving as assistant coaches in the NBA this season. Former WNBA star Swin Cash, along with Seattle Storm star Sue Bird, are working in NBA front offices.

"It's not a fad," said Basketball Hall of Famer Nancy Lieberman. "It's opportunities going to very accomplished women who have given their life to the game."

While it may not be a fad, it is a recent trend.

Lieberman remembers a time when the presence of women was hard to spot or at best found only behind the scenes.

The 61-year-old — who has broken barriers as a player, a coach in the WNBA, head coach in NBA G League and assistant in the NBA — learned quickly that building relationships was key to erasing gender hurdles and opening opportunities in the league. That, along with an occasional assist from forward thinking men like former coach Don Nelson, who in 2009 hired her as the head coach of the Texas Legends, the Dallas Mavericks' G League af-

Several have continued Nelson's vision, including San Antonio Spurs Gregg Popovich, who made Becky Hammon the NBA's first full-time assistant in 2014; current Mavericks' coach Rick Carlisle hired Jenny Boucek as an assistant in 2017; and the Sacramento Kings hired three women as assistants (Lieberman, Boucek and Lindsay Harding).

The BIG3, spearheaded by founder and entertainer Ice Cube, is helping to normalize the idea of women leading men, Lieberman said.

"I remember Donnie did an interview and he said, 'Maybe the best man for the job isn't a man at all.' He had a list of criteria he wanted to hit for his head coach. And I hit those," Lieberman said.

The women garner respect from players for their experience and basketball knowledge.

Celtics guard Gordon Hayward said Lawson, a former star at Tennessee and in the WNBA, has already made her presence felt.

"She's been good as far as just the experience she has as a basketball player," Hayward said. "Reading the game and kind of little things she sees coaching on the sideline. Having somebody that well-versed in basketball, that experience is good."

Wizards assistant Kristi Toliver helped the Washington Mystics win their first WNBA championship this month. On the sideline, Washington NBA All-Stars John Wall and Bradley Beal were wearing the Wizard assistant's WNBA jersey and dancing from the stands.

"The biggest thing I learned is to share your voice and what you've learned," To-liver said. "Doing that has helped me communicate with my guys."

Toliver is in a unique salary situation since she coaches for the Wizards and plays for the Mystics — both owned by same franchise. She was only paid about \$10,000 with the Wizards last year because of WNBA salary cap rules. WNBA teams can only pay all their players a combined \$50,000 in the offseason to supplement pay and Washington only had \$10,000 left to pay Toliver. There are no such hiccups in New Orleans, where Pelicans guard Frank



In this July 1, 2019, file photo, Boston Celtics assistant coach Kara Lawson passes the ball at the team's training facility in Boston.

Associated Press

Jackson said he always expected to benefit from Cash, a senior executive, and Naismith Hall of Famer Teresa Weatherspoon, who was recently hired as an assistant this season.

Cash won two NCAA titles at Connecticut in 2000 and 2002 and finished her 15-year WNBA career at the New York Liberty, where she became an executive. Weatherspoon won an NCAA title at Louisiana Tech in 1988 and was the demanding star point guard in the first seven seasons for Liberty from 1997-2003. She spent the last five years as the Liberty director of player development.

"They were ballers," Jackson said. "They were good at their craft and I've taken a lot from both of them. ... I've always had open eyes and open ears to anyone who plays this game."

The 21-year-old Jackson knows of the women's talents because he has witnessed them firsthand. And he is not alone. The WNBA has been around since most players were teenagers or younger, starting its first season in 1997.

"As the years go on, they're going to get more and more recognition," said Jackson, in his third year out of Duke. "Girls can hoop, too. ... I just think as times change, you'll see more and more."





In this Wednesday, Oct. 16, 2019, photo, boxer Claressa Shields, left, poses; and soccer star Megan Rapinoe poses for photos on the red carpet of the Women's Sports Foundation's 40th annual Salute to Women in Sports in New York.

Associated Press

Soccer star Rapinoe, boxer Shields win sportswomen of year

By The Associated Press Soccer star Megan Rapinoe and boxer Claressa Shields have been honored as Sportswomen of the Year by the Women's Sports Foundation.

They won in the team and individual categories, the awards coming at the foundation's 40th annual Salute to Women in Sports. Rapinoe led the U.S. to victory at the World Cup in France and earned the FIFA Player of the Year award. Shields is a two-time Olympic gold medalist and middleweight champion. Sheila Johnson, part-owner

of the Washington Wizards,

Capitals and recent WNBA champion Mystics, won the Billie Jean King Leadership Award. Marta Vieira da Silva, star of the Brazilian national soccer team, won the Wilma Rudolph Courage Award.

Rapinoe thanked her teammates Wednesday night and lauded Marta, a six-time FIFA Player of the Year, calling the Brazilian the greatest of all time and an "absolute hero in our sport."

John Burke, president of the Trek Bicycle company, received the inaugural Champion for Equality Award.□



Netflix heads into showdown with slowing subscriber growth

By MICHAEL LIEDTKE **AP Technology Writer** SAN FRANCISCO (AP) —

Netflix's subscriber growth is bogging down even before the leading video streaming service confronts high-powered threats from Apple and Walt Disney Co. The latest sign of the challenges the company is facing emerged Wednesday with the release of its thirdquarter results. The numbers provided further evidence that Netflix's salad days may be over, particularly in the U.S., where most households that want its 12-year-old streaming service already have it.

Netflix added 6.8 million subscribers worldwide from July through September, below the 7 million customers forecast by the Los Gatos, California, company. Just 520,000 of those subscribers were picked up in the U.S., below the 800,000 that management anticipated. The shortfall came after Netflix lost 123,000 subscribers in the U.S. during the April-June period, marking its first contraction in eight years.

The latest miss on U.S. subscriber growth "spells trouble for the company ahead of heightened competition," said eMarketer analyst Eric Haggstrom. "The



This Tuesday, Oct. 8, 2019, photo shows the Netflix app on an iPhone in New York. Netflix reports financial results Wednesday, Oct. 16.

Associated Press

fourth quarter represents a completely new ballgame for Netflix.'

future growth is the main reason the company's stock had dropped by about 30% below its peak price of \$423.21 reached 16 months ago. Netflix's shares surged 10% in extended trading Wednesday, apparently because some investors had been bracing for an even bigger letdown in the third quarter.

Netflix said it expects to add another 7.6 million

worldwide subscribers during the final three months of the year, down from Uncertainty about Netflix's 8.8 million during the same period last year in an acknowledgment of the fiercer competition.

> "The launch of these new services will be noisy," Netflix advised in its third-quarter letter to shareholders. "There may be some modest headwind to our nearterm growth, and we have tried to factor that into our guidance."

The big question now is whether some of Netflix's unique lineup of award-

existing subscribers will decide to cancel its service and defect to cheaper alternatives that Apple and Disney will launch within the next month.

Apple is charging only \$5 per month for its service, set for a Nov. 1 debut, while Disney is selling a service featuring its vast library of treasured films and TV shows for just \$7 per month beginning Nov. 12. Netflix's most popular plan in the U.S. costs \$13 per month. Netflix is counting on the

winning TV shows and movies that it has amass since expanding into original programming six years ago to help it retain its competitive edge and attract more subscribers.

It has taken advantage of its head start in video streaming to track the viewing interests 158 million subscribers around the world, giving it valuable insights into the kind of programming that is most likely to appeal to wide swaths of its audience.

That knowledge, in theory, will help Netflix and choose which TV shows and movies to back in the future as it bids for programming against the likes of Apple, Disney and existing rivals such as Amazon and AT&T's HBO.

Even if Netflix keeps picking winners, some budgetconscious subscribers may be tempted to abandon its service and be content with the entertainment options being dangling by Apple and Disney.

Netflix CEO Reed Hastings acknowledged Wednesday that a U.S. price increase imposed earlier this year is causing some current subscribers to cancel the service and perhaps causing some prospective customers to shy away.

Ahead of 2020, FB ensnared in heated political climate

By The Associated Press

Mark Zuckerberg defended meetings he's reportedly had with conservative leaders after #DeleteFacebook began trending on social media.

Politico reported this week that the Facebook CEO held private meetings with, among others, Fox News' Tucker Carlson and conservative radio host Hugh Hewitt.

Conservatives have long accused Facebook of suppressing conservative political view and the company has tried to dispel that belief.

Zuckerberg says he meets with many people "across the spectrum on lots of different issues."



In this May 1, 2018, file photo, Facebook CEO Mark Zuckerberg delivers the keynote speech at F8, Facebook's developer conference, in San Jose, Calif.

Associated Press

"Meeting new people and hearing from a wide range of viewpoints is part of learning," Zuckerberg wrote in a Facebook post. "If you haven't tried it, I sug-

gest you do!"

Facebook has fought allegations since the leadup to the 2016 presidential election that it's not doing enough to stop bogus ac-

counts and political ads on its platform. Those charges are surfacing again ahead of the 2020 election, with Democratic candidates Joe Biden and Sen. Elizabeth Warren demanding that Facebook remove Trump campaign ads that make false claims

After Facebook refused to remove the ad saying that it's not a political gatekeeper, Warren paid for a fake political ad that claimed Zuckerberg and Facebook have endorsed President Donald Trump.

The ad states in the next sentence that it's not true. Pressure on the social media platform is escalating as the 2020 general election approaches.

Biden said that he'd be open to breaking up Facebook. Sen. Kamala Harris of California has said she's would consider new controls on the tech giant.

Facebook faces the risk of more accusations of political bias by blocking or suspending accounts, but also of creating a toxic online environment by doing nothing to remove bogus political ads and groups. Research has revealed

that millions of people get at least some political news on social platforms. A Pew Research Center survey found that a majority of American adults believe the news they see on such platforms are largely inaccurate.



Millennial Money: Surprising tricks for your credit cards

Associated Press

Credit cards are daily payment tools for many Americans, but yours probably also has unintended tactical uses you never thought of, such as slicing open birthday card envelopes your grandparents send.

Of course, credit cards offer convenience, and some also feature perks such as an interest-free period or rewards, the points or miles earned on spending. And if you pay your bill diligently - in full and on time each month — credit cards help build your credit rating.

But that's the usual stuff. Many credit card accounts - and the cards themselves — can be used in strategic and sometimes surprising ways to improve your life.

- LOCK IT DOWN. Most major card issuers have implemented "card lock" or "freeze." It lets you turn your card off or on using the issuer's website or app. You use locks to head off fraud when you misplace a card, for example. But you can turn the spigot off and on for other reasons, like curbing impulse spending or cutting off authorized users. And you might as well lock cards you rarely use in case the numbers are compromised. Note that some uses of this feature don't work well with American Express — its card freezes expire in a week.

— USE "AUTOPAY" AND "EVERYDAY." If you have



This Aug. 11, 2019, photo shows a credit card in New Orleans.

Associated Press

multiple credit cards, designate one as an autopay card and use it for recurring payments. Carry a different card that's "in the wild," for everyday spending, whether in person or online. At some point, that card will likely incur fraud — and after reporting it, you'll get a replacement, but with this tactic, you won't have to visit multiple sites to change your autopay details.

— REQUEST A DOWNGRADE. If you have a seldom-used credit card with an annual fee, you might hesitate to close the account, which could lower the average age of your credit and affect how much total credit you're using, both of which

are factors in credit scores. Issuers with many card options may let you switch to a no-fee card and maintain your credit line and credit history. That way, you ditch the annual fee without harming your credit.

— PLAY THE GIFT-CARD SHUFFLE. Credit card rewards for specific types of spending are typically based on where you make the purchase, not what you buy. So if your credit card gives you outsize rewards for supermarket shopping, for example, you can buy gift cards for restaurants, retailers or home-improvement stores while you're in the grocery aisles. Exceptions may apply — for example, the supermarket may not allow you to buy gift cards with a credit card.

— OPTIMIZE THE GRACE **PERIOD**. If you always pay your credit card balance in full but have a big purchase that will take weeks to pay off, consider timing it just right to maximize your grace period. Make the purchase after your statement period closes. Then, you have about a month before the next statement closes, plus the grace period, which by law is at least 21 days. All told, that could be more than seven weeks of an interest-free loan. Note: The grace period doesn't apply to cash

— GO WITH TWO. Issuers would love you to use only their rewards card for all transactions. But one of the best tactics is to use two cards: one that gives you high rewards for certain categories of spending such as 3% to 5% back at gas stations or restaurants and another card that gives you good rewards on everything else, with "good" being 1.5% or 2% back. That way you reap substantially more rewards with the hassle of managing only two cards.

- CALL AND YOU MAY **RECEIVE.** The card issuer's phone number is printed on the back of your card, but it's not only for reporting potential fraud or asking billing questions. Make a mistake and get hit with a fee? Call and ask — nicely — for it to be waived. Use the same number to ask for lower interest rates or higher credit limits.

— IN A PINCH, IT'S A TOOL. Credit cards, especially metal ones, can slice a lime, open a package or scrape frost off a windshield. They are a light-duty pry bar when fingernails won't cut it and a betterthan-nothing screwdriver. If you damage the card, the issuer probably won't object to replacing it. And expired plastic cards can be cut and repurposed in a number of creative ways, from collar stays to guitar picks.

CSX 3Q profit slips 4% as railroad hauls less freight

Associated Press

CSX's profit declined 4% in the third quarter, but tight cost controls helped the railroad weather a 5% decline in volume.

from last year's \$894 million, or \$1.05 per share.The results topped Wall Street expectations. The analysts surveyed by Zacks Invest-CSX to report earnings of \$1.01 per share.

The railroad's revenue decreased 5% to \$2.98 billion, which was roughly in line with analyst expectations. CSX said its expenses declined 8% to \$1.69 billion in Jacksonville, Flori- the quarter as it continued da, based railroad said working to improve effiit earned \$856 million, or ciency. Edward Jones ana-\$1.08 per share, during the lyst Jeff Windau noted that quarter. That was down CSX found ways to improve operations, even with volume declining.

> "It was a really solid quarter for them," Windau said.

CSX Corp. is more than two ment Research expected years into an operational overhaul designed to enable the railroad to handle more volume with fewer locomotives and employees by operating on a tighter "We think we have opportunities to continue to improve on the efficiency side," CEO Jim Foote said.



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Conceptis Sudoku

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Difficulty Level ★★★★

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

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	7	4	9	1	6	8	2	3	5
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Created by Jacqueline E. Mathe

remarks

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36 Actress Tina's kin

cosmetic kit 39 __ up; admit

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Thursday's Puzzle Solved														
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41 Customary practice 42 Flower bed 44 __ vision; result of cataracts 45 Lion's hideaway 47 Restaurant car parker

48 As blind as _

49 Actress Moore 50 Picnic spoiler 53 Friendly 54 Ooze out 56 Groupie 57 Eerie saucer, for short 59 __-roaring; noisy & exciting



This 2017 photo provided by Marin Humane shows an owl who had gotten caught up in some decorative Halloween cobwebs outside of a residence in Mill Valley, Calif.

Associated Press

Some tips to make Halloween decor less scary for wildlife

Associated Press

Fake cobwebs and some other spooky, outdoor Halloween decorations meant as harmless fun can do real damage to wildlife.

Halloween spending has skyrocketed in recent years, and the National Retail Federation says Americans are expected to spend \$2.7 billion on Halloween decorations this year.

Wildlife organizations say they also have seen an increase in animal visits to local rehabilitation centers for injuries related to the outdoor holiday decorations.

"The fake cobwebs are of particular concern," said

Lisa Bloch, director of communications for the Marin Humane in Novato, California. When they're strung across bushes and trees, "wildlife can easily get stuck in these webs."

The fake webs can trap animals, said Alison Hermance of WildCare, a nonprofit wildlife hospital and nature education center in San Rafael, California. Birds caught in them can damage their wings and claws. Chipmunks and other lowto the-ground rodents can also get caught and damage their paws.

If you observe an animal in trouble, always call a wild-life center before intervening, Bloch said.



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Groups: Saving Mexican gray wolves requires new approach

By SUSAN MONTOYA BRY-AN

Associated Press

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. (AP) Dozens of environmental groups and scientists have asked U.S. wildlife managers to rethink how they plan to ensure the survival of Mexican gray wolves in the Southwest.

Following a loss in federal court last year, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is crafting a new rule to guide management of the endangered predators in New Mexico and Arizona.

In a letter Wednesday to U.S. Interior Secretary David Bernhardt and federal wildlife managers, the coalition said the rule should be based on "an entirely new approach" that incorporates the best science while acknowledging the recovery effort's past shortcomings

"Please do not keep going in the same fruitless direction that has not even met your own metrics, but instead chart a new path that will actually recover the Mexican gray wolf," the letter states.



In this May 20, 2019, file photo, a Mexican gray wolf is seen at the Endangered Wolf Center in Eureka, Mo.

Associated Press

The Fish and Wildlife Service said Thursday it is using the best available science to craft a plan for the wolf that can be accommodated within the species' historical range in the Southwest and in Mexico.

The agency is under a court mandate to revise the wolf management rule by May

2021. Officials say they plan to meet that deadline while seeking peer review and public comment.

"We remain committed to our goal of working with partners to address the threats facing Mexican wolves and ensure the recovery of the subspecies," Brady McGee, the Mexican wolf recovery coordinator, told The Associated Press in an email.

The rarest subspecies of gray wolf in North America, Mexican wolves have struggled to gain ground since the first release in 1998 because of poaching, politics, legal challenges and even complications from a

lack of genetic diversity. Mexican wolves are in a more precarious position than other gray wolves in the U.S. because of their limited numbers. The most recent survey showed there were at least 131 in the wild in the southern mountain ranges of New Mexico and Arizona.

There are an estimated 30 wolves in the wild in Mexi-

The population is still far from where biologists had initially envisioned by now. In their latest plea, environmentalists and professors from around the U.S. continue to call for the release of more captive wolf families to boost the wild population and its genetic diversity. They also complained about removals of wolves from the wild, saying more can be done by managers and ranchers to ensure protection of livestock.

The coalition also has concerns about limiting the physical boundaries of the recovery program, saying wolves should not be removed if they roam farther north.

Queuing for eternity: Fossils show lining up is primal urge

By FRANK JORDANS

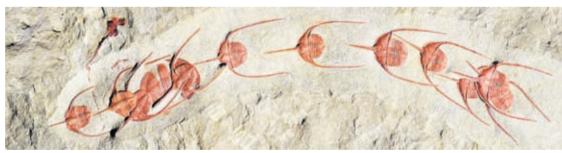
BERLIN (AP) — Ever felt like you've been queuing forever?

Scientists say fossils found in Morocco suggest the practice of forming orderly lines may date back 480 million years and could have had evolutionary advantages.

Their study, published Thursday in the journal Scientific Reports, describes groups of blind trilobites — known as Ampyx — all facing in the same direction, apparently maintaining contact via their long rearward

researchers The from France, Switzerland and Morocco analyzed the fossils and concluded that the tiny trilobites, which look similar to modern horseshoe crabs, probably intentionally formed a queue as they swarmed along the prehistoric sea floor.

"Given the scale of the patterns seen, this consistent linearity and directionality is unlikely to be the result of passive transportation or accumulation by currents," they said.



Picture taken in August 2017 show linear clusters of trilobites (arthropods) on the surface of the rock slab.

Associated Press

Beautiful Latin Girls Pick-up & Delivery Serving Men - Couple - Women - All Genders Bachelor Party Specialized, Call: 565-9535 the best in the Caribbean

Jean Vannier, a researcher at the University of Lyon, France, who co-authored the study, said possible reasons for this group behavior include environmental stresses or reproduction.

found in modern-day members of the extended family of arthropods that trilobites belonged to, such as caterpillars, ants and lobsters, who band together for protection or to find mates.

"Living and moving in groups seems to have rapidly represented an evolutionary advantage among ancient animals," Vannier

Lucy McCobb, a paleontologist at the National Museum Wales who wasn't involved in the study, said Similar behavior is also that while similar 'conga lines' of fossilized Ampyx have been reported before, the researchers behind the study had built "a very strong case for the intentional lining up of the trilobites in response to some cue."

> "These fossils give us a wonderfully vivid glimpse into

the lives of these very ancient but clearly sophisticated creatures," she said. Vannier said the findings support the idea that collective behavior like forming lines emerged around the same time or shortly after animals first developed sophisticated nervous systems and sensory organs. He and fellow researchers said re-examining 520 million-year-old fossils of shrimp-like creatures found in China could offer evidence that such behavior began even earlier.



MoMA reopens with more space, fresh juxtapositions

NEW YORK (AP) — The Museum of Modern Art's new \$450 million, 47,000-squarefoot expansion offers visitors more than much-needed elbow room. It emphasizes new juxtapositions of works to encourage broader perspectives and new narratives.

The revamped MoMA, a third bigger than the old one, opens to the public on

While iconic works by the likes of Monet, Van Gogh, Picasso and Pollock remain dependably on view, visitors are invited to see them in a new light, now displayed side by side with less familiar works by women and minorities, and artists from places like Africa, South America and Asia.

The goal is to rethink the familiar and make Modernism feel fresh and challenging again.

"Sometimes even small juxtapositions can have a big impact," says Jodi Hauptmann, senior curator of drawings and prints at



This undated image released by the The Museum of Modern Art shows the installation "Artist's Choice: Amy Sillman—The Shape of Shape," part of the renovation and expansion effort at MoMA

Associated Press

MoMA. "On the fifth floor, for example, Van Gogh's 'The Starry Night' is now shown in the same gallery as a collection of ceramics made at the same time by George Ohr, of Biloxi, Missisthose things together."

Picasso's 1907 "Les Demoiselles d'Avignon" now shares gallery space with a 1967 painting by African-American artist Faith Ringgold featuring an interracial gunfight. Seeing sippi. It's interesting to see the two works together provides fresh perspective on both, and seems to emphasize the violence of Picasso's fractured bodies.

"Inspired by Alfred Barr's original vision to be an experimental museum in New York, the real value of this expansion is not just more space, but space that al-

lows us to rethink the experience of art in the museum," says Glenn D. Lowry, director of MoMA.

To keep creating fresh juxtapositions, offer up more of the museum's permanent collection, and place greater focus on multiculturalism, the revamped MoMA promises to rotate many of the works in its galleries every six months.

"It's an opportunity to show visitors what the museum has been doing in terms of collecting these past years," says Michelle Elligott, chief of archives, library and research collections.

In some of the galleries, sculpture, painting, design, architecture, photography and film are all featured together.

"We have now brought various departments into conversation, which allows visitors to explore what different artists were doing during the same time period," says Martino Stierli, chief curator of architecture and design at the museum.

Musicians Hall of Fame to honor group with New Jersey roots

HACKENSACK, N.J. (AP) — Seven years after hitting the road to perform and share their stories of recording with some of the biggest names in pop music, a New Jersey-based group of former A-list session musicians is being recognized for its efforts.

The Musicians Hall of Fame and Museum in Nashville is giving its first "Road Warrior" award to The Hit Men, a group originally assembled in 2012 by former members of Frankie Valli and Four Seasons. The group has toured steadily since then, and its Oct. 28 concert at Nashville's City Winery will close a month of shows in California, Arizona, Maine, Louisiana and Tennessee.

"It's an incredible honor to be recognized for the work we've each put into our careers supporting the greatest names in the music industry," founding member Lee Shapiro said.

The museum opened in 2006 and showcases the often-unsung musicians who



In this July 20, 2017 file photo, The Hit Men play music during a show at the Axelrod Performing Arts Center, in Deal Park, N.J.

Associated Press

have backed legendary pop performers. Among its famous inductees are the Wrecking Crew, the group of L.A. studio musicians that played on numerous '60s pop hits; and the Funk Brothers, Motown Records'

house rhythm section. Seeking to ride the musical nostalgia wave and the success of the Four Seasons-inspired musical "Jersev Boys," The Hit Men formed in 2012 in a basement studio in Fair Lawn,

New Jersey, about 10 miles from New York. Their roots extend decades further. Shapiro, keyboardist for

Valli during the singer's mid-1970s comeback, had played with guitarist Don Ciccone and drummer

Gerry Polci with the Four Seasons and knew bassist Larry Gates from childhood. Ciccone and guitarist Jimmy Ryan had scored hits with the pop group The Critters in the '60s. All had extensive credits playing behind artists from Carole King and Carly Simon to Elton John, the Rolling Stones and dozens more.

The group added veteran session vocalist Russell Velasquez and has played 40 to 60 dates per year ever since, adjusting its set list as the "Jersey Boys" phenomenon faded.

Along the way, they lost Gates to complications from multiple myeloma and Ciccone to a heart attack. Gates' spot was filled by Jeff Ganz, whose lengthy resume includes stints with Chuck Berry, Dr. John, Johnny Winter and Blood, Sweat and Tears. Polci left the group and was replaced by Steve Murphy, who has backed Alan Parsons, Todd Rundgren, Jack Bruce and others.



'Jojo Rabbit' seeks humor in the darkest of places

By JOCELYN NOVECK Associated Press

"Oh good, another Hitler comedy! It's been too long," said no studio development executive, ever. But of course, absurd as the idea may seem, some attempts to wring humor from the horrors of Nazi Germany have stood the test of time: Charlie Chaplin's "The Great Dictator," Ernst Lubitsch's "To Be or Not To Be," Mel Brooks' "The Producers,"

and Roberto Benigni's "Life Is Beautiful," to name a few. Now comes the boldly, unabashedly quirky "Jojo Rabbit" by New Zealand director Taika Waititi, who attempts this fiendishly difficult balancing act at a time when Nazi jokes seem even more potent and dangerous than a few decades ago.

And that is precisely the point, Waititi says: Now, especially now, is the time



This image released by Fox Searchlight Pictures shows, from left, Roman Griffin Davis and Taika Waititi in a scene from the WWII satirical film "Jojo Rabbit."

Associated Press

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to remind younger generations of what happened more than 70 years ago. And what better tool, as Brooks has posited, than humor? That's his argument, anyway.

Whether you agree or not — and indeed, many may not — it helps to know where the director is coming from, personally. He is both Jewish, through his mother, and Maori, through his father. He has spoken of experiencing prejudice as a child, and says he's always been interested in stories told through the eyes of children.

That's exactly what he does in "Jojo Rabbit," which, though it features highprofile names like Scarlett Johansson and Sam Rockwell, is anchored by a hugely sympathetic young actor, Roman Griffin Davis, as a 10-year-old boy trying to be the very best Nazi he can.

It's hard to believe this is young Roman's film debut; he manages to exude both a youthful whimsy and a sense of aplomb that belies his age. It's also hard to imagine the film succeeding without such a sensitive and winning performance at its core.

We meet Jojo toward the end of the war, in the fictional town of Falkenheim. (The film is based on the 2004 novel "Caging Skies,"

by Christine Leunen.) He lives with his mother, Rosie (Johansson), a spunky and radiant free spirit with, we will learn, a major secret. But really, Jojo lives with Adolf Hitler.

Yes, Hitler's his imaginary friend, sort of his Nazi life coach, as the young boy prepares to don his uniform and join the Jungvolk of the Hitler Youth, where youngsters are indoctrinated into the cause. Hitler is played here by Waititi himself as more of a benignly goofy, gangly misfit than, well, the real thing. (He says he wasn't his own first choice for the role; actors weren't clamoring to be Hitler.)

At training camp, Jojo's commander is the preposterously thickheaded Captain Klenzendorf (a predictably amusing Rockwell, who knows from thickheaded characters), aided by his equally misguided assistants, Finkel and Fraulein Rahm. The latter is played by Rebel Wilson, as intentionally incongruous in a World War II film as you'd imagine. "I've had 18 kids A tragedy late in the film for Germany," she declares will severely test the deepto the young girls, who are expected to do the same. Jojo is ordered to demonstrate his Nazi credentials by wringing the neck of a rabbit. He can't bring himself to kill the poor thing, and runs away into the forest, humiliated.

He tries to redeem himself, but soon he'll face an even more shocking challenge. In a closet, he discovers that his own mother has been secretly harboring his worst enemy, the villain he's been taught to despise above all others: the Jew. Only this one's name is Elsa, and she's young and beautiful. And he can't find her horns, or any signs of evil powers.

Jojo's first instinct is to alert the Nazis about Elsa (Thomasin McKenzie, the lovely New Zealand actress who recalls a young Nicole Kidman). But he soon realizes he and his mother would likely be killed, too. And so he slowly gets to know her. Where does the Queen Jew lay her eggs, he asks? Do you live in caves? Sometimes, she allows, "We hang from the ceiling." Gradually, the two become closer. Elsa tries to get Jojo to realize he's not really a Nazi just a 10 year-old "who likes dressing up in a funny uniform and wants to be part of a club."

ening relationship between the two. But the war will eventually end, with drastic implications for every character. "It's definitely not a good time to be a Nazi," notes Jojo's young buddy Yorki drily, as the regime collapses around them.



2 writers claim they deserve credit on Lizzo's 'Truth Hurts'

By MESFIN FEKADU Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — There's a debate about the truth behind Lizzo's "Truth Hurts."

Lizzo's breakthrough tune, which spent six weeks on top of Billboard's Hot 100 chart this year, features the signature line: "I just took a DNA test, turns out I'm 100 percent that bitch." The lyric originated from a 2017 tweet by singer Mina Lioness and was turned into a popular meme, which was then used in Lizzo's song "Healthy," created in 2017. The songwriting brothers Justin and Jeremiah Raisen, who worked on "Healthy," claim say they deserve writing credit on "Truth Hurts" since the song borrows from "Healthy," a tune they co-wrote.

"We were never contacted about being credited for the use of the parts of "Healthy" (melody, lyrics, and chords) that appear in "Truth Hurts," Justin Raisen wrote Tuesday on Instagram, explaining that they worked on "Healthy" in April 2017.

The songwriters credited on "Truth Hurts" are Lizzo, Ricky Reed, Tele and Jesse Saint John. "Truth Hurts" was originally released in September 2017 but got a



Lizzo performs during the first weekend of the Austin City Limits Music Festival in Zilker Park on Sunday, Oct. 6, 2019, in Austin, Texas.

Associated Press

boost this year after it was featured in the Netflix film "Someone Great," released on April 19, the same day Lizzo dropped her album, "Cuz I Love You."

?Truth Hurts" wasn't originally featured on the 11-track "Cuz I Love You," but her record label added it to the deluxe version of the album, released on May 3. "After reaching out to Ricky Reed and Lizzo's team

about fixing it, we put the song in dispute in 2017 when it came out," Justin Raisen continued on Instagram. "We've tried to sort this out quietly for the last two years, only asking for 5% each but were shutdown every time."

But Lizzo's lawyer said in a statement that "The Raisens are not writers of" Lizzo's international hit.

"They did not collaborate

with Lizzo or anyone else to create this song, and they did not help write any of the material that they now seek to profit from, which is why they expressly renounced any claim to the work, in writing, months ago," Cynthia Arato said in a statement Wednesday.

"Although it has become all too commonplace for successful artists to be subjected to these type of opportunistic claims, it is nevertheless disappointing that after all of her hard work, Lizzo has to respond to this specious claim."

The New York Times reported that the Raisens rescinded an earlier claim over "Truth Hurts" through their publisher, Kobalt.

Outside of the all-genre Hot 100 chart, "Truth Hurts" spent seven weeks at No. 1 on both the Hot R&B/Hip-Hop songs and Hot rap songs chart, respectively. It was submitted for the 2020 Grammys in categories like song and record of the year — where songwriters and producers also earn nominations; the Recording Academy will announce its nominees on Nov. 20.

"The last thing we want to do is throw any negativity toward Lizzo's momentum and movement as a cultural figure. If we believe in what she's preaching, believing in ourselves & our own voices is something we thought she'd understand," Justin Raisen wrote.

Lizzo is currently selling T-shirts on her website that read "100% that bitch "—the line created by Lioness (She didn't immediately reply to an email from The Associated Press seeking comment).

Cha's story is about race, redemption and forgiveness

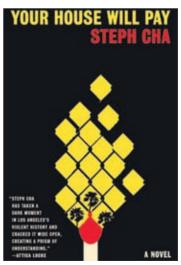
By OLINE H. COGDILL

"Your House Will Pay: a Novel," Ecco, by Steph Cha The "house" in Steph Cha's riveting first stand-alone novel references many types of houses. There is the home in which you live, but house also refers to where you work, your friends and prisons, both physical and emotional, those things that bind people and that we call home. This house motif — and its myriad meanings — effectively moves throughout Cha's engrossing story about race, redemption and forgiveness. "Your House Will Pay" also is an emotional look at families and how trauma and violence can reverberate for generations, causing one character to worry about "how easily kids absorbed the spilled poison of the grown-up world."

History uncomfortably repeats itself in the story. Grace Park, a 27-year-old pharmacist, attends a rally protesting the Los Angeles police shooting of a black teenager, joining her sister, Miriam. She is estranged from their Korean immigrant parents with whom Grace still lives. Grace's life consists of work in the family pharmacy and going home to her parents who are unresponsive to her outrage at the shooting and who refuse to discuss why they and Miriam won't talk. Miriam also won't discuss their parents, only saying that their mother is "not a good person."

The current shooting echoes a 1991 shooting in which black teenager Ava Matthews was killed by a Korean liquor store manager. The shopkeeper disappeared after being convicted of voluntary manslaughter for killing the unarmed girl. The shopkeeper's sentence was probation, community service and a \$500 fine.

Ava's death nearly destroyed her younger brother, Shawn, who joined a gang and spent a few years in prison. But Shawn turned his life around, has settled down with a steady job, a girlfriend and her daughter, and has been a surrogate dad to the family of his cousin, Ray, who has been in jail for 10 years. But



This cover image released by Ecco shows "Your House Will Pay," by Steph Cha.

Associated Press

Shawn knows deep down that "he was loosely held by the world, that he was one snap away from a total unmooring." The legacy

of these two families, torn apart by race and history, intersects as their problems become a microcosm of problems festering in Los Angeles. For the Matthews and the Parks, justice is messy, tainted by a litany of "what ifs" that could have changed their lives. Racial tensions rear up, even by characters who honestly believe they are not bigoted. Each family will learn uncomfortable truths about themselves as they try to rise about the past.

Cha unflinchingly delves into the complex emotions that drive families, violence and the need to survive. "Your House Will Pay" sets a new high for the talented Cha, who also writes the Juniper Song series.



Library exhibit offers glimpse into Salinger's life and work

By HILLEL ITALIE
Associated Press

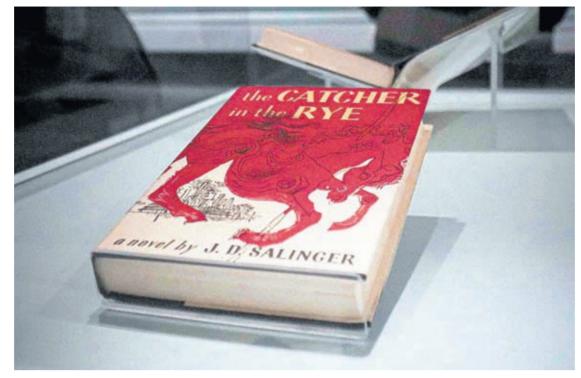
NEW YORK (AP) — As he worked on early drafts of "The Catcher in the Rye," a novel which proved both scandalous and lifechanging, J.D. Salinger considered adding his generation's idea of a trigger alert.

"I think there's going to be a lot of swearing and sexy stuff in this book," warns narrator Holden Caulfield, in a paragraph on page 18 of Salinger's manuscript, part of an upcoming exhibition at the New York Public Library. "I can't help it. You'll probably think I'm a very dirty guy and that I come from a terrible family and all."

"The trouble is," Holden adds, "everybody swears all the time. And everybody's pretty sexy."

Salinger apparently changed his mind. He drew a large X through the passage and wrote "delete" in the margins. Starting in 1951, when the book was published, millions of readers would discover the truth for themselves.

The library exhibit, titled "JD Salinger," opens Friday and runs through Jan. 19 at the historic 5th Avenue branch in Manhattan. It continues a surprisingly eventful centennial for Salinger, who died in 2010 and avoided publicity for much of his writing life. His literary estate approved new print editions for the first time in decades of the four books



A copy of the 1951 novel "The Catcher in the Rye" is part of a J.D. Salinger exhibit being installed at the New York Public Library, Wednesday, Oct. 16, 2019, in New York.

Associated Press

he allowed to come out in his lifetime — "The Catcher in the Rye," "Franny and Zooey," "Nine Stories" and "Raise High the Roof Beam, Carpenters and Seymour: An Introduction." And for the first time ever, the literary estate authorized e-book editions.

Salinger's estate is overseen in part by his son, Matt Salinger, who has also said that readers will, at some point, see the books his father worked on after he stopped publishing in the 1960s. In announcing the exhibit last week, the younger Salinger cited the public's lasting curiosity.

"When my father's longtime publisher, Little, Brown and Company, first approached me with plans for his centennial year my immediate reaction was that he would not like the attention," Matt Salinger wrote. "He was a famously private man who shared his work with millions, but his life and non-published thoughts with less than a handful of people, including me. But I've learned that while he may have only fathered two children there are a great, great many readers out there who have their own rather profound relationships with him, through his work, and who have long wanted an opportunity to get to know him better.'

Drawing upon archives made available by Matt Salinger, the exhibit is not the tell-all that some fans might have wanted. There are no unreleased novels or stories, and no images of Salinger's widow, Colleen Salinger, or of the mother of Salinger's two children. Claire Douglas. His affair in the early 1970s with author Joyce Maynard, a college student when he befriended her, is not mentioned. But the library does offer an eclectic, revelatory and sometimes quirky range of materials, from a Royal manual typewriter to a bowl Salinger made as a boy to videocassettes of Marx Brothers comedies and other films he liked to

watch. A bookcase from his bedroom includes "The Oxford Book of Detective Stories," a collection of Robert Browning poems and three volumes on "Zen and the Zen Classics," reflecting his immersion in Eastern religion and philosophy. Letters to his literary representatives document his immersion in the publishing process, from sales and royalties to the cover design of paperbacks.

Declan Kiely, the library's director of special collections and exhibitions, said that the materials on display demonstrated Salinger's "meticulousness, possibly bordering on the obsessive," although "obsessive in a good way."

"You have to be obsessive to produce a body of work, to be true to your art,"

Kelly said. "It (the exhibit) reveals Salinger the man—in terms of simple hobbies, the modesty, the quotidian aspects of his life. There's nothing fancy or frilly about Salinger."

Salinger's career as an author is captured through clippings of his early stories, manuscripts, copies of his books and letters to his publishers. A working draft of "Franny and Zooey" was titled "Ivanoff the Terrible, subtitled, "An Ontological Comic Drama With a Little Morning Music," and included an opening section which apparently refers to his years as a counter-intelligence officer in Europe during World War II. (Salinger fans had long wondered whether "Ivanoff" was a separate, unreleased book).

"Early in the Normandy campaign, we were issued little olive-drab crystal balls to help pass the time in the foxholes," Salinger writes, a reference to the D-Day invasion, when he was among those landing on Utah Beach. "Mine came with a rather ominous looking crack in it, but I see a few things..."

The one-room library exhibit tracks Salinger's life. There are childhood photos and images from his military service, many highlighting his dark eyes, extended jaw and the hint of a Holden-like smirk. Pictures from the 1960s and 1970s with his children, Matt and Margaret, capture Salinger in middle age, in rural Cornish, New Hampshire.



A typewriter, tobacco pipes, and eye glasses are part of a J.D. Salinger exhibit being installed at the New York Public Library, Wednesday, Oct. 16, 2019, in New York.

Associated Press



An early draft of the 1951 novel "The Catcher in the Rye" is part of a J.D. Salinger exhibit being installed at the New York Public Library, Wednesday, Oct. 16, 2019, in New York.

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